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VOLUME 30, NUMBER 100

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1999

FIFTY CENTS



Shirley Valencia photo

Old-fashioned Christmas

The Six Mile House History Museum located at 3279 Maryville Road, had an open house on Sunday. Pictured is Elmer Steele, board member, showing antique Christmas ornaments.

District mourns loss of administrator

'Pat' Schuman dies after battle with cancer

By Michael Heil
Staff writer

A long-time Granite City School District administrator lost a six-month battle with cancer over the weekend. Assistant Superintendent Fred P. "Pat" Schuman died Saturday. Schuman, who had been with the district since 1968, retired in November after nine years as assistant superintendent. He was 55. Superintendent Steve Balen said Schuman was a man of commitment. "He was dedicated to his family, the district and its students," Balen said. "He will be missed by everybody he was associated with." Schuman attended elementary school and second-

"He was dedicated to his family, the district and its students. He will be missed by everybody he was associated with."

Steve Balen
Superintendent

ary school in Granite City. A 1961 graduate of Granite City High School, Schuman excelled in academics and baseball and football, lettering in both sports. He enrolled at the University of

Illinois in the summer of 1961 and transferred to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in the fall of that year. After transferring to Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, he graduated in 1966 with a major in history and a minor in psychology. Schuman served in Army Co. C, Special Troops at the United States Army Garrison at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indiana. Ron Stern, Granite City School District's administrative assistant for elementary education, said Schuman was one of the most crude persons he had the pleasure of working with. "Pat was a well-read person who impressed me with his knowledge and intellect,"

See SCHUMAN, Page 8A

City's tub grinder is source of damage; not defective

Machine threw metal object that dented car door, but wasn't malfunctioning

By Michael Heil
Staff writer

The city's tub grinder has an insatiable appetite for leaves, grass and other yard waste, but apparently considers metal too tough to digest.

About two months ago, the grinder flung a 13-pound metal object about 100 feet into Jack Pilger's driveway in the 2400 block of Central Avenue. The object that put a ruler's length, two-inch gash into the blacktop, came from the surface and struck Pilger's pickup truck, denting the driver's side

door at an estimated cost of about \$800. While Pilger contended the grinder ejected the metal, Granite City Street Superintendent Jerry Lakin wasn't sure and asked inspectors from Morbark, the grinder's manufacturer, to inspect the machine to see if it was indeed the culprit.

Lakin said Monday that the inspectors concluded that the metal did come from the grinder, but that it wasn't a defective part of the machine.

"There's nothing wrong with the city's tub grinder, nothing at all," Lakin said. "Someone obviously put this object into it when dumping

yard waste. The grinder rejected it, tossing it the distance it did."

Lakin said the grinder is manned by city personnel when it's in use so that the proper yard waste is dumped into it. Personnel, Lakin said, can only do so much to make sure nothing is tossed into the machine that doesn't belong.

"We can't see every little thing that's thrown its way.

That's impossible," Lakin said. "We do know the grinder is good for the city and will continue to be an asset to help people in the community dispose of their yard waste."

The grinder, which cost the city \$209,000, has been operational since October.

It sits at the city's dumping site along 25th Street.

Lights will continue to flash on Madison

Replacement parts still in transit

By Michael Heil
Staff writer

Motorists driving along Madison Avenue have seen red lights flash before their eyes, causing them to stop momentarily.

The reason - stop lights at Madison and Neidringhaus and 20th and Madison malfunctioned simultaneously more than a month ago, prompting the city to put the lights in a flashing red mode until they can be repaired. "We recognize they're an inconvenience and make for potential accidents," said

"We ask the motoring public and pedestrians to use caution and be patient until the repairs are made."

Maj. Kip Pomeroy
Granite City Police Department

Maj. Kip Pomeroy of the Granite City Police Department. "Therefore, we

See LIGHTS, Page 8A

Child abuse statistics show decline in county

Report shows decrease in area cases

By Angela Mueller
Staff writer

Reported incidents of child abuse and neglect and infant deaths in Madison County have declined in recent years, according to the Illinois Kids Count report recently released by Voices for Illinois Children.

Children, a non-profit children's advocacy group, prepares a report each year compiling statistics concerning children from the Department of Family and Children Services and other state agencies.

According to this year's report, 1,000 cases of child abuse and neglect were reported in Madison County in 1998, 36 fewer than reported in 1997. Greene, Jersey, Calhoun and Macoupin counties also saw a decrease in reported child abuse and neglect cases.

The rate of indicated reports of child abuse and neglect across Illinois decreased 9.1 percent from 1997 to 1998. Statewide, 32,868 incidents of abuse and neglect were reported in 1998.

The 1998 report represents the third year in which statewide reports of child abuse and neglect have

See CHILD, Page 8A



Shirley Valencia photo

Busy as elves

Granite residents work on handmade items at the Brown Recreational Center last Saturday. The projects will be sold at an upcoming craft fair.

fairWeather 5
More to know Channel 5 for the latest forecast.

WEDNESDAY 41°/29°
THURSDAY 35°/24°
FRIDAY 40°/28°
SATURDAY 49°/28°

Granite City Journal

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First Night admission buttons now available

By Cathy Pezold
Staff writer

First Night Saint Louis, the family friendly, alcohol-free New Year's Eve "Celebration Through the Arts," again will host a fun-filled evening to welcome the new year.

"It's a great event for families because it offers entertainment for all age groups, and it gives families a chance to spend New Year's Eve together," said Judith Simms, executive director of First Night Saint Louis.

Festivities to usher in the year 2000 will begin at 7 p.m. Dec. 31. The celebration will take place downtown, between Tucker Boulevard and 17th Street to the east

and west, and between Market and Locust streets to the south and north. Tickets - in the form of pin-on buttons - are available at area Schnucks Markets, all TGI Friday's locations and the Metro Ride Store at St. Louis Center.

Buttons purchased in advance are \$8 for adults and \$4 for youths ages 18 and younger. Buttons purchased on New Year's Eve are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youths.

Buttons allow entry to any venue at First Night, free MetroLink rides and discounts at TGI Friday's locations and the temporary downtown ice rink.

Venues for this year's First Night include: Centenary Methodist Church, St. John's Catholic Church, the central branch of the St. Louis Public Library,

Soldier's Memorial and Christ Church Cathedral. The venues will host a variety of entertainment throughout the evening. First Night also will have heated tents to protect partygoers from the winter elements.

The Imaginary Kingdom Tent will focus on kids, and First Night also will include a wide range of street performers.

The Midnight Stage, at Kiener Plaza, will feature entertainment, with well-known St. Louis actress Judy Mann serving as emcee.

Mann will unite everyone in welcoming the new millennium as fireworks explode under the Gateway Arch.

For more information, contact the First Night office at 588-0002.

Nominations sought for Women of Achievement

Deadline for submission of entry forms is Jan. 21

Women of Achievement, the organization that annually honors St. Louis women who have contributed to the strength and vitality of the metropolitan area, is accepting nominations for the year 2000.

The deadline to submit nominations for this prestigious award is Jan. 21.

Women throughout the greater St. Louis area are continually making outstanding contributions to our community," said Theresa E. Loveless, the organization's board president. "As the year draws to a close, it is the perfect time to think of those women who have made an

impact on the community in 1999."

Loveless, who is executive director of the Girl Scout Council of Greater St. Louis, recently was elected to a two-year term as board president for Women of Achievement. She received the Women of Achievement award in 1992.

Other newly elected officers to the Women of Achievement board of directors are Joanne Kohn, vice president; Jane Evans, secretary; and Joy Melman, treasurer.

Newly elected board members are Mary Randolph Ballinger, Judy Champ, Sue Clancy, Marilyn Fox, Mary Lou Hess, Virginia Klein, Jean Neal, Sister Mary Roch

Rocklage, Elizabeth Sayad, Nora Stern and Ida Woolfolk.

Members of the board who will be serving the second year of their two-year term are Charmaine Chapman, Ellen Conant, Jane Evans, Joanne Kohn, Joy Melman and Terri Shores.

Sponsors of the Women of Achievement awards are the Suburban Journals, KMOX-AM (1120) and Westfield Shoppingtowns.

Nomination forms are available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Suburban Journals, Attn: Women of Achievement, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, 63131.

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center gets federal land

Bill signed by President Clinton transfers 39 acres of federal land

By Kerry Smith
Staff writer

President Clinton signed a bill last Thursday that moves the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center project closer to reality.

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Director Susan Mogerman said presidential approval of H.R. 2737 officially and permanently transfers 39 acres of federal land in Hartford to the state of Illinois. This acreage is the site upon which ground will be broken in late summer 2000 for the interpretive center.

Mogerman praised the efforts of U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello (D-Illinois) for drafting the legislation to allow Illinois to continue design and construction schedules for the \$7 million facility, 15,000-square-foot facility.

"The news that this is a done deal is great," Mogerman said Friday. "Initially, we thought it was a done deal, and then we ran into some Congressional resistance. It took Congressman Costello's leadership and the support of the Illinois Congressional Delegation to get the land transfer passed."

Mogerman said if all goes according to schedule, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center should be completed in mid 2002, giving the preservation agency a full year to operate it before an

"This legislation allows the state of Illinois to move forward with its appropriately ambitious plans to create an historic center to showcase the departure of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery."

Jerry Costello
U.S. Representative

anticipated 100,000 tourists arrive in 2003 to celebrate 200 years since the famous duo's expedition.

"This area of Illinois is truly becoming a tourism corridor," Mogerman said. "The dedication of the national scenic byway, the bike trails and the new Great Rivers Museum at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam are just some of the reasons people are flocking here. The Interpretive Center will be yet another reason for people to come to this area."

Funding for the Center is a combination of \$4 million in federal money, secured last year by Costello, and the remainder by the state of Illinois.

Costello said Friday that

Clinton's signing of H.R. 2737 represents a major advancement for the project itself. "This legislation allows the state of Illinois to move forward with its appropriately

ambitious plans to create an historic center to showcase the departure of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery," Costello said. "With the President's signature on this

Police beat

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF CANNABIS: Jason B. Huston, 21, Edwin M. Illias, 39, and Christopher B. Huston, 24, were charged with unlawful possession of cannabis after a routine traffic stop at 5:15 a.m. Dec. 6 at Pontoon Road and Lake Drive by the Madison County Sheriff's Department. Huston was wanted in Cole County for driving while license was revoked and failure to appear on a speeding charge. Illias, who was driving at the time of the incident, was charged with unlawful possession of cannabis, driving while license was suspended and operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. Huston was charged with unlawful transportation of alcohol by a passenger and unlawful possession of cannabis.

WARRANT ARREST: Ivan Moss, 33, was taken into custody at 6:27 a.m. Dec. 12 by the Madison County Sheriff's Department. Moss was wanted on two warrants for a body attachment per child support and for failure to appear on a charge of illegal transportation of alcohol.

TRAFFIC ARREST: James C. Chapman, 38, was arrested for driving under the influence and driving while license was revoked after a traffic stop at 12:05 a.m. Dec. 13 by the Madison County Sheriff's Department. A 1984 brown Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck Chapman was driving was spotted swerving off the roadway and driving on the shoulder. He was unable to perform field sobriety tests and refused to comply with a blood alcohol test. A records check showed

that Chapman's driver's license had been revoked since May 15, 1991. Chapman was also ticketed for improper lane usage and failure to wear a seat belt.

STOP/WARRANT ARREST: John A. Spencer, 18, was taken into custody after a traffic stop at 10:21 p.m. Dec. 9 at California and Leland in Collinsville by the Madison County Sheriff's

Department. Spencer was a passenger in an automobile driven by Amber M. Mers, 20—that was stopped for speeding and for having a missing taillight. A records check showed that Spencer was wanted for probation violation by the Madison County Sheriff's Department. Mers was given verbal warnings for the moving violations.

Construction of the center is expected to take 14 to 18 months, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency site superintendent Bob Coomer said.

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News

Illinoisans can make living will wishes known on licenses

Legal provision discovered that ensures end-of-life medical wishes will be carried out

By Linda N. Weller
Staff writer

A state senator who was willing to go to bat legislatively so Illinoisans can ensure their end-of-life medical care wishes are carried out during an emergency dis-

METRO EAST

covered recently that a little-known provision already is in place. The problem is, hardly anyone knows about it, said state Sen. Evelyn Bowles, D-Edwardsville.

"They can utilize it and should utilize it," Bowles said about a special notification information card and a corresponding, bright orange alert sticker that adheres to the back of drivers' licenses. The items are free and available at Illinois Secretary of State driver's license examining stations.

"In an accident, (medical personnel) can see this card and start looking for the next of kin" and whoever has the patient's power of attorney, Bowles said.

Bowles said Monday that she and Beth Walston, executive director of the Alton-based Illinois Coalition for Improving End of Life Care, met last week in Springfield with representatives of the Illinois Secretary of State's Office. While researching the feasibility of advance directives, Bowles said the Secretary of State's staff discovered Illinois' Probate Act already had provided for the cards and stickers since 1992.

"It is wonderful they found it," said Bowles. "It has everything we wanted; now we don't have to pass any legislation."

"It's been a real answer to our prayers," Walston said.

"In an accident, (medical personnel) can see this card and start looking for the next of kin."

Evelyn Bowles
State senator

Walston said the Springfield staff "expressed a

new commitment to increasing the use of the seal currently provided to indicate the existence of such documents."

Representatives of the office could not be reached for comment Monday afternoon to discuss how they plan to promote availability of the stickers.

Staff at Secretary of State facilities can dispense the cards and stickers but are not authorized to give advice about living wills, Bowles said. The wills can spell out a person's desires concerning kind of medical treat-

ment wanted, level of comfort, how he or she wants to be treated and whom they entrust with their health care decisions if they are not able to speak for themselves, among other aspects.

Walston, a registered nurse and resident of Rosewood Heights, said the stickers alert the personnel to the existence of a living will. Such wills are filed with family members, an attorney and physician. Walston said only 10 percent of Americans have living wills.

"It is a very basic document," Bowles said.

"It is very difficult for people to think about dying," said Walston, who formerly worked as an emergency room nurse. "The coalition tries to prevent people from unwanted medical care."

Bowles is a member of the coalition's board. The organization, which arose from a 1996 Illinois Senate's Comfort Care for the Terminally Ill Task Force, has more than 200 members. The organization publishes its "five wishes" for end-of-life medical treatment, which is similar to a living will. Walton recommends the document be notarized if an attorney is not used. For more information, call 259-6173.

Gov. Ryan meets namesake of 'Austin's Bill'

Legislation passed puts genetic mother's name on birth certificate

By Marge Wilson
Staff writer

Two Illinois residents who made an important change in state law regarding surrogate births, finally got to meet each other recently.

METRO EAST

These were Illinois Gov. George Ryan and Austin Miller, the 14-month-old son of Scott and Vicki Miller of Fairview Heights.

This past summer, legislation relating to Austin's birth and the birth of children like him was passed by the Illinois General Assembly and signed by the governor. The new law, nicknamed "Austin's Bill" before its passage, specifies that in some cases of surrogate births, the child's birth certificate does not have to contain the name of the birth mother, the woman who has carried the baby.

"We weren't able to find anything similar in other states. As far as we know, this has set a precedent."

Jay Hoffman
State representative

This occurs when the egg does not come from the birth mother and the birth mother is agreeable to not having her name on the certificate. When the egg is from another woman, the biological mother, the biological mother's name is to be put on the certificate along with the name of the baby's father, the person's whose sperm fertilized the egg.

The new law is likely unique in the nation, said State Rep. Jay Hoffman,

who introduced the legislation.

"We weren't able to find anything similar in other states," Hoffman said. "As far as we know, this has set a precedent."

Hoffman numbers Scott and Vicki Miller among his constituents. The Millers were aware that hospitals normally require that the birth mother be identified as the baby's mother on the birth certificate. They objected to this procedure because it was Vicki's egg that was implanted in the womb of a surrogate mother in order to conceive the couple's baby.

The surrogate mother was an in-law of the couple. Jenny Miller, wife of Scott's older brother, Steve Miller, who has since died. Jenny Miller was willing to give up the baby to the couple and to have her sister-in-law's name on Austin's birth certificate. Partially for this reason, Scott and Vicki Miller were able to persuade a lawyer and a judge to

issue a court order to have Vicki Miller listed on the certificate along with her husband, Scott.

The Millers contacted Hoffman about how to get their names on the birth certificate. After this was accomplished for them, they and Hoffman wanted to make the same advantage available to other couples in similar circumstances, hence the legislation.

"We all worked hard to leave a legacy for other families," Hoffman said.

He said it was hard to get the family and the governor together during the regular legislative session, so it was arranged during the recent veto session in Springfield. Hoffman looks on the success of his bill as an important event.

"Not very often do we have local people effecting a change in the law in such a positive way. The young man (14-month-old Austin) has already left his mark," he said.

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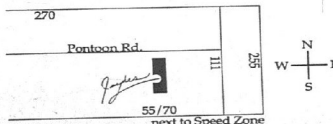
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Dickmann settles into new administration

By Barbara M. Cope
Staff writer

In his first few days as Edwardsville's first city administrator, former Director of Police Bennett W. Dickmann said he has seen the best and worst of municipal government.

"Even after 30 years of experience in municipal government, it's intriguing to learn more every day about

the issues that present themselves daily," Dickmann said. "Sometimes, it's unfortunate there are only 24 hours in a day."

Dickmann took office in the newly created position Dec. 1. So far, he said, he has encountered supportive colleagues and intriguing challenges. On the other hand, he said, it would be nice to have a desk.

Dickmann's new office, which was formerly a conference room, is bare. Furniture delivery has been

repeatedly delayed.

On both the positive and negative sides, Dickmann said he is "meeting myself coming and going" as he hops from meeting to meeting and from City Hall to the Public Safety Building, where he continues to "wrap a few things up."

After one week in office, Dickmann said he is acutely aware that his actions will "blaze the trail" for his successors.

"I think part of the challenge in charting new ground

is that everyone has different priorities, perceptions and expectations on what the job will be. I am challenged myself by what we should address first - and the answer is everything."

No matter how hard it tries, no government can anticipate every need its citizens will face, Dickmann said. As he settles into the new job, one of the first challenges is to learn more about projects under way.

That, he said, has meant meetings, meetings and

more meetings.

Agenda items, he said, will be set as Mayor Gary Niebur and the City Council make the transition to having him at their side, but one request has already been made. Dickmann has been asked to address the lease negotiation for the Leclair Academy. The building, which is being renovated, will become the home of the Edwardsville Children's Museum if negotiations are successful.

Initiatives like the ward officers, who will meet with residents on safety or other law enforcement concerns, or the D.A.R.E. program

have led to Dickmann being credited with making the police department a resident-friendly one. Now, he hopes to bring that same sort of responsiveness to City Hall. One immediate change residents could see as Dickmann settles in is one-stop shopping at City Hall.

"You remind yourself that in a democracy, the citizens outrank the generals," Dickmann said. "I have already discussed with some of the departments my preference that citizens should make only one call to City Hall, even if they call the wrong department."

Organizations

Weekly

EAGLE PARK ACRE SENIORS OF MADISON meets from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday at 100 Hill St. (near Eagle Park Acres, Madison).

GRANITE CITY COMMUNITY BAND rehearsals are from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday at St. John United Church of Christ, 2901 Nameoki Road, Granite City. For information, call 931-0443.

JOLLY QUILTERS meet from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday at the Social Center, 906 Thorngate Drive, Granite City.

GRANITE CITY TOWNSHIP HALL NUTRITION SITE, 2060 Delmar, serves meals daily at 11:50 a.m. Monday through Friday. Reservations should be made a day in advance by calling 877-4373. Donations are accepted.

TOPS 2363 meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at Anchorage Recreation Center, 2909 Edwards St. For more information, call Bobbie at 452-0273.

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TRIPLE LODGE 835 A.F. and A.M. meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Masonic Temple, 1940 Cleveland Blvd., Granite City.

Monthly

BURT - BUBBLEMASTERS UNDERWATER RESCUE TEAM meets at 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at 4964 Old Alton Road next to the Mitchell Fire Protection Department. Tours are available by appointment by calling 931-8317.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN OF GRANITE CITY meets Wednesday at Jerry's Cafeteria for dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by a program at 7:15 p.m. The meetings are open to the public. For more information, call 452-5391 or 451-6914.

NOON NETWORKING FOR WOMEN meets from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Fairview Heights Ramada Inn to exchange business cards, share ideas and make contacts. Lunch is \$10. There are no annual dues. Each month, a volunteer participant of the networking group speaks about her business. For meal reservations or to be

placed on the mailing list, call Marianne Drainer at 344-1156.

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, a hereditary group for descendants over age 12 of Confederate veterans, meets Thursday at Ravanello's Restaurant, 3 American Village Shopping Center, Granite City. Call 877-3065 for more information.

Miscellaneous

THE MIDWESTERN UNITED STATES IMPERIAL DANCE CLUB has regular dance meetings twice each month starting at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Collinsville. The public is invited for dance lessons and open dancing at a cost of \$4 for non-members and \$2 for members. For more information,

call 463-2405.

THE SINGLES CONNECTION has scheduled the following activities: Today-Come and bring a friend! A planning meeting and reception for prospective members will start at 7 p.m. at Imo's Pizza on Route 157 in Edwardsville. Members will plan events for January. Feel free to call Lee at 658-0323 for information.

URBAN LEAGUE of Madison County offers the following programs at the UL Health Care Services, 500 Madison Ave., Madison. For more information, call 452-5394.

Family planning services from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Thursday.

Screening and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

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News

University Park to get special place for children

By Barbara M. Cope
Staff writer

There will be plenty to discover at a new kind of child care facility coming to SIUE's University Park, officials said Friday.

Discovery Depot is the project of the Southwestern Illinois Chapter of the Illinois

Easter Seals Society. The facility will be licensed to care for children between 6 weeks and 6-years-old. Of the 131 children it can

accommodate, approximately 20 percent will have special developmental needs.

"We expect the center to become a model for very high quality, affordable child care in the 21st century," said Tom Berkshire, president and CEO of Easter Seals.

Several dignitaries were on hand for a groundbreaking ceremony Friday morning. State Sen. Evelyn Bowles (D-Edwardsville) emphasizing the need for child care in today's increasingly busy households, said she was happy to participate

in bringing the new center to Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville's University Park.

A representative from the office of State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka's office gave Berkshire a huge check for more than \$1.26 million of the construction costs. The financing for the project is being provided through the Childcare Initiative Link Deposit program.

Brenda Samonds, child care manager for Easter Seals, said this is the fourth center of its kind to be

opened, but "a dozen" other sites are being looked at within Illinois.

"Easter Seals is becoming a leader in the provision of quality inclusive child care. As the first child-care center of its kind in the region, we expect the center to be a focus of teacher learning, conferences and observation," Samonds said. "As part of the Edwardsville community, we will provide quality programming, special needs services and exciting developmental opportunities for all children."

The curriculum and pro-

gram for the center will have several key components borrowed from Italian child care methods. At Discovery Depot, children will stay with the same teacher for three years. Children also will work as teams so they will learn to accept the abilities of each child. The center hopes that by bringing the children together and including children with disabilities, it will help all of the children develop to their full potential.

Teachers also will work with families to promote

developmental activities in the home that are consistent with those at the center. The center will use multiple media to teach in new and exciting ways. One example given was that music, poetry, books and computers skills can all be learned by allowing the children to write a play.

University Park is a venture meant to enhance economic development in the region while fostering ties between SIUE and entities that will benefit from that relationship.

Support groups

Weekly

AL-ANON ADULT CHILDREN meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave. in the Kettler Center Conference Room A. Call 463-2429 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. at 2116 Club 2116 Edison, Granite City. Call (800) 307-6600 for information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 8 p.m. Wednesday at St. Elizabeth School's Noah's Ark Day Care, Pontoon Road, Granite City. The meetings are closed except for the last Wednesday of the month.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday and noon and 8 p.m. Friday at 2116 Edison, Granite City. Call (800) 307-6600 for more information.

AL-ANON meets at Thursday 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave. in the Kettler Center Day Care Center room C. Call 463-2429 for information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 8 p.m. Thursday at Mitchell Presbyterian Church, East Chain of Rocks Road and Greenway Drive. Call (800) 307-6600 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 8 p.m. Saturday at 2116 Club, 2116 Edison, Granite City, Call

(800) 307-6600 for more information.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP at Eden Village Nursing Home in Edwardsville meets at 7 p.m. Thursday.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES offers individual, marriage and family counseling Thursdays at Our Lord's Lutheran Church, 150 Wilma Drive, Collinsville. To schedule an appointment, call 344-8049.

MANIC DEPRESSIVE ASSOCIATION OF MADISON COUNTY meets from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in the Milonski Room located in the basement. For more information, call the DMDO office at (314) 776-3969.

DIVORCED AND SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP, sponsored by the Eden United Church of Christ and Hoytson Youth and Family Services' Family Care Program in Edwardsville, meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday. All divorced or separat-

ed persons are welcome. Call 556-9268 for more information. There is no fee, but donations are accepted.

PULMONARY SUPPORT GROUP, for persons with diagnosed lung conditions, meets at 10:15 a.m. Monday in the Wellness Center at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. For more information, call 798-3019.

RECOVERING FROM THE LOSSES OF LIFE meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the First Baptist Church of Maryville, 2184 Vandalia Drive, behind Anderson Hospital. The group provides encouragement and practical guidance for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or who has experienced other profound losses.

STEMSS, a support group for people with a mental illness and an alcohol or substance abuse problem, meets at 1:30 p.m. Friday at Paschal Hall in St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Call 798-3604 for more information.

Bi-monthly

PARENTS ANONYMOUS GROUP meets at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. For information or the meeting site, call Elaine Searcy at 462-2714 or Lyle Cobbyer at 876-2382.

RIVERS OF WATER WORSHIP CENTER SUPPORT GROUP meets at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at 1307 Madison Ave., Madison, to comfort and restore. Group membership is open to all who are "broken" at no cost. Worship service follows at 11:30 a.m. the third Saturday of every month. For more information, call 341-3643 or 656-7851.

Monthly

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday in the Sister Mary Thomas conference room of St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave. For more information, call 798-3018.

PEOPLE NEEDING PEOPLE BEHAVEMENT SUPPORT

GROUP meets from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday in the Sister Mary Thomas conference room, St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave. Call 798-3399 for more information.

Miscellaneous

ALTERNATIVES COUNSELING offers a supportive and educational group to the woman whose husband or romantic partner has sexually abused her child. For more information, contact Donya L. Adkinson at 656-5104.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS meets in the area at the following times and locations: Thursday ... Building a Foundation starts at 8 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in the Milonski Room.

Friday ... Friday Night Group meets at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Kettler Center A.

Saturday ... Acceptance starts at 8 p.m. in Paschal Hall at SEMC.

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Obituaries

Edith Daubach

EDITH J. DAUBACH, 64, of Granite City, died at 9:35 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, 1999, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville. She was born July 5, 1935, in Harrisburg, Ark. Mrs. Daubach was a homemaker and of Protestant faith.

She is survived by a son, Robert Daubach of Elmore, Ala.; a daughter, Linda Davis of Granite City; a brother, Shelby Carothers of Pottsville, Ark.; two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Daubach; and her parents, Harry and Mae Ell Lee (Carter) Carothers.

Funeral services were Tuesday at Werner-Mick Funeral Home in Granite City with the Rev. Delmar Shirley officiating. Burial was in Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Belleville.

Lorna Henson

LORNA M. (HEESE) HENSON, 75, of Granite City, died at 2:40 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, 1999, at her residence.

She was born Sept. 19, 1924, in Mattoon. Mrs. Henson was owner and operator of Farm Fresh Milk Stores in Chester and Granite City. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, Trio's Homemakers Club and the Ladies Quilting Club of the church.

She is survived by her husband, Otis Henson, whom she married Sept. 1, 1940. Other survivors include daughters, Mandy Natis of Vandalia, Mo., and Kristy Ford of Kenmore, Va.; a brother, Frederick Heese of Mattoon; a sister, Dorothea Roy of Sullivan and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Louise (Upjohn) Heese; a brother, Frank Hesse; and two sisters, Marilyn Hesse and Mildred Authenthath. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Irwin Chapel in Granite City. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. John Lutheran Church with the Rev. Warren Huffines officiating. Burial will be in Dodge Grove Cemetery in Mattoon.

Memorials may be made to St. John Lutheran Church or the

American Cancer Society.

Kathryn Martin



KATHRYN LUCILLE "TRIX" MARTIN, 90, of Pontoon Beach, died Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

She was born Aug. 24, 1909, in Eminence, Mo. Mrs. Martin worked for the Melvin Price Support Center and Granite City Press Record. She was a charter member of Pontoon Beach Baptist Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Maxine Green of Pontoon Beach and Marilee Verdu of Millstadt; and 10 grandchildren, Rebecca Green, Tommy Green, Roybn Campbell, Troy Verdu, Pamela Mueller, Tim Verdu, Lisa Carpenter, Janet Bertismann, Carole Turner and Drew Verdu.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas A. Martin; her parents, William and Anna (Myrick) Tucker; eight brothers, Carl, Fred, Ted, Harry, Jack, Donald, Leon and Lyman Tucker; two sisters, Nellie Rickett and Helen Alt and a grandson, Jimmy Green.

Funeral services were Saturday at Pontoon Beach Baptist Church with the Rev. Kevin Kerr and Alan Redfern officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Edwardsville. Werner-Mick Funeral Home in Granite City handled the arrangements.

Eva Meadows

EVA F. (STOLZ) ROBERSON, 93, of Granite City, died at 9:05 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

She was born Oct. 4, 1906, in Panama, Iowa. Mrs. Meadows worked for Simpson restaurant in Granite City. She was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Granite City.

She is survived by a daughter, Eva Meadows of Granite City; two

grandchildren, Cindy Wagner of Swansea and Nancy Meadows of Granite City and three great-grandchildren, Mandy, Betsey and Katie Kirschner, all of Swansea.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest Roberson; her parents, Michael and Josephine (Maer) Stolz and a son, John E. Roberson.

Funeral services will be at 9 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Family Catholic Church with the Rev. Bill Fisherkoller officiating. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Edwardsville.

Irwin Chapel in Granite City handled the arrangements. Memorials may be made to Holy Family Catholic Church.

Charles Mouldon

CHARLES E. MOULDON, 72, of Granite City, died at 4:39 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 1999, at his residence.

He was born Sept. 16, 1927, in St. Louis. Mr. Mouldon was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was an account manager for Vestal Laboratories in St. Louis for 20 years, retiring in 1980.

He is survived by his wife, Carol J. (Turner) Mouldon, whom he married Oct. 24, 1959. Other survivors include seven sons, Greg Mouldon of Godfrey, John Mouldon, Robert Mouldon and Christopher Mouldon, all of Granite City; Randie Mouldon of Chicago; James Mouldon of Holiday Shores and David Mouldon of Fort Worth, Texas; a brother, Frank Mouldon of Fenton, Mo.; two sisters, Bernice Mouldon of Baldwin, Mo., and Frances Bauer of Florissant, Mo.; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his

parents, Frank and Ethel (Olson) Mouldon and two sisters, Ethel Tapper and Delores Geno.

Funeral services were Tuesday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary in Granite City with the Rev. Jeff Smith officiating. Burial was in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis.

Raymond Nowicki

RAYMOND A. NOWICKI, 67, of St. Louis, formerly of Madison, died Saturday, Dec. 11, 1999, at St. Anthony's Medical Center in St. Louis.

He was born Oct. 5, 1932, in Madison, Mo. Nowicki was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a trucking dispatcher and member of American Legion Post 58 in Belleville.

He is survived by a sister, Nellie Hogan of Granite City.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Anna Agnes (Haligowski) Nowicki and two brothers, Joseph Nowicki and Henry Nowicki.

Graveside services were Tuesday at Calvary Cemetery in Edwardsville.

Herbert A. Kassy Funeral Home Ltd. in Collinsville handled the arrangements.

Fred Schuman

FRED PATRICK SCHUMAN, 55, of Granite City, died Saturday, Dec. 11, 1999, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

He was born March 17, 1944, in Granite City. Mr. Schuman served in the U.S. Army Reserve. He was the assistant superintendent of Granite City School District 9 and a member

of St. John's United Church of Christ in Granite City.

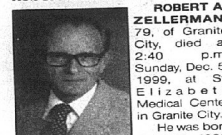
He is survived by his wife, Gloria (Bleniecki) Schuman; his mother, Esther (Bachteler) Schuman; a son, Fred Patrick Schuman III; two daughters, Mary Schuman of Granite City and Leah McFarland of Bunker Hill; a brother, Mark Spengler of Granite City and a sister, Carol Sanders of Jupiter, Fla.

He was preceded in death by his father, Judge Fred P. Schuman and a sister, Mary Elayne.

Werner-Mick Funeral Home in Granite City handled the arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Robert Zellerman



ROBERT A. ZELLERMAN, 79, of Granite City, died at 2:40 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

He was born April 27, 1920, in Robertsville, Mo. Mr. Zellerman was a sales representative for F.A. Friedman in Madison. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Granite City and the Senior Citizens Bowling League.

He is survived by his wife, Mary V. (Focherkob) Zellerman, whom he married June 14, 1947. Other survivors include a son, Robert Zellerman of Granite City; a daughter, Kathleen Welch of Springfield; five grandsons, Christopher Welch of Springfield, Matthew Welch of St.

Louis, Joseph, David and Joshua Zellerman, all of Granite City and two great-grandsons, Christopher Welch and Nathan Welch, both of Springfield.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard F. and Anna M. (Reub) Zellerman.

Funeral services were Dec. 8 at Irwin Chapel in Granite City with the Rev. James Flach officiating. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to Granite City High School Lighting Committee or Jesus Saves Mission of Granite City.

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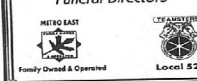
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As part of a new federal Environmental Protection Agency rule, Illinois American Water Company will be holding a public education meeting about its safety procedures in place at its Granite City (2000 W. 24th Street) water treatment plant. The EPA created the RMP regulation as an amendment to the Clean Air Act. The new rule requires facilities with certain quantities of chemicals and other regulated substances to explain the preventative measures and emergency response programs in place to prevent major incidents and protect the community.

While the public is invited, these plans may affect only those individuals who live or work within one mile of the Illinois-American water treatment plant. The meeting will be held:

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"Project Trim" will be held in the auditorium at Memorial Hospital; the exercise program is held at Belleville Health and Sports Center, 1001 S. 74th Street, Belleville.

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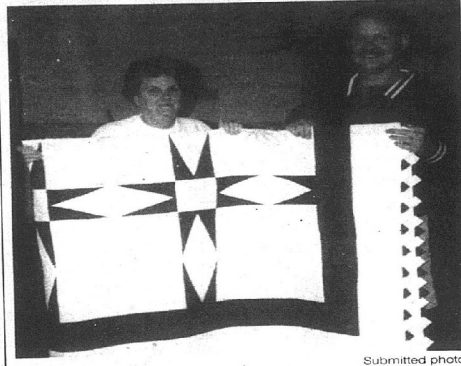
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News

Student officers selected at SIUE

Twenty-two students have been elected officers and committee members of the class of 2003 at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield. B. J. Yurcisin, son of Basil and Eve Yurcisin of Granite City, was elected to the new student liaison committee. Dan Keys, son of Richard and Maureen Keys of Belleville, was elected social chair. The school is based in Carbondale and Springfield and is specifically oriented to preparing physicians for practice in Illinois communities. SIU ranks as one of the leading U.S. medical schools in the percentage of graduates now practicing in the primary care fields of family practice, general internal medicine, general pediatrics and obstetrics and gynecology.

Church Women United hold Christmas party



Submitted photo

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Members of the Church Women United had their Christmas party Dec. 3 at Nameoki Methodist Church. A potluck luncheon preceded the White Elephant Auction with Doris Klenke serving as auctioneer. Members brought home-made crafts that were also sold. Proceeds from the activities were added to the money used to supply layette articles and to the Ministry of Women and Children. The next meeting will be the annual business meeting set for Jan. 21 at St. John United Church of Christ.

United Catholic Credit Union awarded #1 Camel rating



Submitted photo

The directors of United Catholic Credit Union, from left, Tom Lubak, Tom Druhe, Dave Freeman, Diana Wilmsmeyer, Garry Hitt, Carol Mathes, Dan Wilmsmeyer, Joyce Schmidt, Al Jenness and Paul Hellrich gather to celebrate the credit union's 45th anniversary.

United Catholic Credit Union has been awarded a #1 Camel Rating from the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions, the highest rating possible for a state-chartered credit union.

as well as their 12th consecutive 5-star rating from Bauer Financial Inc. This signifies a record of superior credit union performance and strength. The credit union was chartered on July 14,

1953, and serves member of Catholic Churches in Granite City, Collinsville, Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, Madison and Maryville.

Quad City Church Women sponsor World Community Day

The Quad City Church Women United sponsored World Community Day at Dewey Avenue United Methodist Church. After lunch, the celebration continued with the service, "God's Passionate Love, Holy Laughter, Holy Tears." It was written by four women from southern California to invite us to experience God's love that is expressed through laughter and tears and through the joy and pain of our every day living. Those taking part in the service were Lena Switzer, Ollie Derr, Mary Beckland, JoAnn Hummert, Helen Testerman, Jean Hileman, Mac Lee, Lucille Caban, Doris Votow and Dolores Moseley. A solo was presented by Eileen Davis, called "Laughter Lends Itself to Praise," and was accompanied by the Rev. Rose Hermonat, who also played music throughout the service. Helen Todoroff and Isla Williams gathered favorite spices from the audience to symbolize the "Spice of Life." A combination of community churches presented their blanket offering. The state organization approved blankets last year to benefit Protestant Welfare (Community Care), Phoenix Crisis Center and Good Samaritan House. These not-for-profit organizations also received canned goods, layettes, toiletries and soap through the year from the Quad City CWU, collected from the members. Ollie Derr was the coordinator for this celebration, Jean Hileman, chairman, and Fay Poole took registrations. Ollie Derr, Jean Hileman and Helen Testerman made the arrangements.



Submitted photo

by the Rev. Rose Hermonat, who also played music throughout the service. Helen Todoroff and Isla Williams gathered favorite spices from the audience to symbolize the "Spice of Life." A combination of community churches presented their blanket offering. The state organization approved blankets last year to benefit Protestant Welfare (Community Care), Phoenix Crisis Center and Good Samaritan House. These not-for-profit organizations also received canned goods, layettes, toiletries and soap through the year from the Quad City CWU, collected from the members. Ollie Derr was the coordinator for this celebration, Jean Hileman, chairman, and Fay Poole took registrations. Ollie Derr, Jean Hileman and Helen Testerman made the arrangements.

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Abuse statistics show decline

Continued from Page 1A

decreased in number, Alan Simpson of Voices for Illinois said.

"That's obviously a good sign, but we don't want to interpret it as too good of a sign," Simpson said. "The numbers are still too high, but the progress in recent years is a good sign."

Simpson said expanded letters to better educate and support the family unit may have contributed to the decreasing reports of abuse. He also cited the current strength of the economy as a possible cause for the decrease.

"A strong economy removes some of the stress that might lead to neglect or abuse," he said. "We almost always see child abuse go up when the economy lags, and when the economy is strong child abuse goes down. We need to make sure this progress is maintained even

if the economy doesn't stay strong."

The infant mortality rate in Madison County has also declined in recent years. Between 1993 and 1997, 16,793 infants were born in the county, and 131 infants died in the county. These numbers represent a 14.4 percent decrease in infant deaths since 1988 to 1992.

Infant mortality in Illinois has decreased 23.5 percent since 1990. Statewide, 8.1 infants died per 1,000 live births in 1997.

The Illinois teen birth rate has continued on a downward trend. The rate has decreased more than 12 percent since 1990. In 1996, 57 infants were born in Illinois per 1,000 females between the ages of 15 and 19.

"For the first time since we started publishing the Illinois Kids Count in 1992, we're seeing real improvements in a number of areas, such as infant mortality, teen pregnancy and child abuse," said Jerry Stermer,

president of Voices for Illinois Children. "However, nearly one of five kids in Illinois still grows up in poverty, so we clearly have more work to do."

In Madison County, 17.5 percent of the county's children, or 12,021 children, were living in poverty in 1995. This is an increase from 16.7 percent, or 10,454 children, living in poverty in 1989.

The number of children living in poverty also increased between 1989 and 1995 in Calhoun and Jersey counties. In Greene and Macoupin counties, the number of children living in poverty decreased in the same six-year time span.

"The number of kids in poverty is even more troubling because it may actually undercut the number of kids living in dangerous economic conditions," Stermer said. "The federal poverty level does not account for expenses like transportation, child care and taxes."

Lights will continue to flash

Continued from Page 1A

ask the motoring public and pedestrians to use caution and be patient until the repairs are made."

According to Pomeroy, the lights should have been repaired in early December. Because their control mechanisms and circuits are outdated, Rite Electric of Granite City did not receive the parts from a manufacturer in California when they were supposed to. Pomeroy said parts for one intersection were shipped Dec. 10 and repairs will be made by Rite Electric as soon as the company receives the parts. Parts for the other light should be shipped Dec. 17.

"The company is conscious of the city's finances, and I don't hold anyone associated with Rite Electric responsible for the delays. It's strictly a matter of supply and demand."

Maj. Kip Pomeroy
Granite City Police Department

Pomeroy said, and as soon as they arrive repairs will be made. The repairs will cost the city between \$18,000 and \$20,000.

"Overall, we are extremely satisfied with what Rite Electric has done the past three or four years," Pomeroy said. "The company is conscious of the city's finances, and I don't hold anyone associated with Rite Electric responsible for the delays. It's strictly a matter of supply and demand."

Pomeroy said other traffic lights in the city are outdated as well and would take an extended period of time to be repaired and would also cost the city between \$18,000 and \$20,000.

Schuman loses battle with cancer

Continued from Page 1A

Stern said. "He was the embodiment of a professional during his interviews and by the way he worked with people."

Schuman, who obtained his master's degree in secondary education, specializing in science, first taught at the former Central Junior High, beginning in 1968. He then taught sociology, psychology and history at

Granite City High School from 1970 to 1974. He became an assistant principal at Grigsby Junior High School in the fall of 1974 and held the position until 1979, after which he became the assistant principal of the high school until 1987. From 1987 to 1990, he was the principal at Grigsby.

Schuman also was active in local politics. He served as a city alderman from 1977 to 1989. In 1996, he ran for the Madison County Board seat in District 25, losing by

a narrow margin in the Democratic primary.

Schuman also served the community as chairman for the United Way for the Public Service Sector, as scholarship chairman for the Boy Scouts of America and as golf and baseball coach for the park district.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria; daughters Laney Schuman and Leah McFarland and a son, Patrick. An obituary appears elsewhere in this edition.

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The Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville need volunteers, ages 18 and over, who experience panic attacks, to participate in a research study comparing and investigating drug with placebo. If you have panic attacks and would like to be considered for a study please call us. Symptoms include:

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Catch up on Granite City
prep wrestling team
inside

Wildcats snap Granite City win streak

Granite City loses to Hazelwood West 4-1 in lackluster effort

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Granite City skated backward Thursday, and in the process, lost the momentum it had built through a two-game winning streak.

The Warriors fell 4-1 in Mid-States Club Hockey Association play to Hazelwood (Mo.) West in Wilson Park.

"Basically we got off to a sluggish start," Warriors coach Dave Yurkovich said. "In the first and third periods, we skated to their pace. We were not aggressive. In the second period we

scored and kept them off of the score-sheet. But then we went back to playing lackadaisical. We didn't go get the puck in the corners and battle for control. We really beat ourselves. We didn't give the effort we needed to get it done. We took some bad penalties."

The worst offense came early in the game, when Kyle Hensley got heated for a check from behind.

"We lost Kyle for the rest of the game," Yurkovich said. "We were already missing Robbie Gerber, who was out with the flu. So we were down to two lines plus one skater. We had several other penalties that we had to kill, and we were ourselves out."

"We really beat ourselves. We didn't give the effort we needed to get it done."

Dave Yurkovich
Granite City coach

happy to get back to .500 after those two wins over Florissant, Mo., McCluer and Florissant, Mo., McCluer North.

"We sat back and let West bring the game to us and lost. We went below the .500 mark again. It is going to take a full-out effort for the entire game to beat East."

West shuts down Warriors

Strong defense vaults Maroons to 65-45 conference win

By Scott Marion
Staff writer

With four players in double figures, the Belleville West basketball team looked impressive on offense Saturday night at Granite City.

BOYS BASKETBALL But it was defense that coach Bill Schmidt wanted to talk about after the Maroons posted a 65-45 Southwestern Conference victory.

"I hope that defensive play will be the trademark of this team," said Schmidt, whose squad improved to 5-2 overall and 1-1 in the SWC. "If you play good defense, you're always going to be in the game."

Schmidt was especially with the effort of junior David Wagner, who guarded Zack May, Granite City's top perimeter shooter. May scored 12 points, but was limited to three points from the field in the second half while hitting only one of six 3-point shots.

"(Wagner) did a tremendous job on May in the second half," Schmidt said. "Ray is a very fundamental sound player. If you score points off Ray Wagner, you're doing a very good job."

West led by as many as six points in the first quarter, but a trey by Granite City's Matt Pistorius cut the Maroons' lead to 14-11 after eight minutes. Schmidt's team extended its lead to seven points late in the second

"It was 26-21 for a long time and we got nothing done out there. We had the right people taking shots, but you have to make baskets."

John VanBuskirk
Granite City coach

quarter and led 26-21 at halftime. "I think the difference in the game was the end of the second quarter," Granite City coach John VanBuskirk said. "It was 26-21 for a long time and we got nothing done out there. We had the right people taking shots, but you have to make baskets."

A 12-0 Belleville West run, capped by a layup by Katie Chapman, made the score 38-21 midway through the third quarter. The Maroons finished the period shooting 9 for 9 from the field and led 48-28 going into the fourth quarter.

"I was glad to see us play well in the third quarter, which had been a struggle for us in three or four games this year," Schmidt said. "The kids came out and took charge in the second half."

"I saw some good things offensively and defensively. It was a pretty close game and that run gave us some breathing room."

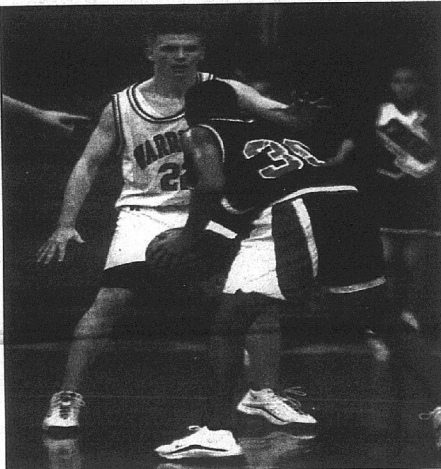
For Granite City, the third quarter was a disaster. The Warriors missed their first six shots and finished the period 2 for 14 from the field and 3 for 5 from the free throw line.

"With us having two games last weekend, then having a week to prepare plus having (Friday) night off, I thought it would help us," VanBuskirk said. "But it was exactly the opposite. We prepared hard all week and had good practices, but we didn't come to play tonight."

Ramon Kelly scored a game-high 18 points for West, including three 3-pointers. Chapman and Wagner added 12 and 11 points, respectively. Carl Heuer scored 10 points despite missing the second quarter with foul trouble.

"The key to having a good basketball team is having more than one or two kids who can score," Schmidt said. "We've got more than four kids who can score (in double figures)."

Pistorius scored 16 points for Granite City, which dropped to 3-4 overall and 1-1 in the SWC. "I credit Belleville West - they had a nice shooting percentage and they probably out-rebounded us by a two-to-one margin," VanBuskirk said. "There was nothing positive about this game for us."



Tim Stephenson photo

Granite City's Matt Pistorius scored 16 points against Belleville West, but the Maroons won the game.

Flyers hold off Belleville West

East St. Louis coach not impressed as Maroons crawl back into contest

By Scott Marion
Staff writer

The East St. Louis basketball team is off to a 5-1 start, but the Flyers haven't impressed the man whose opinion counts the most.

BOYS BASKETBALL "We've got a long way to go from here," Flyers coach Bennie Lewis said after his squad defeated visiting Belleville West 61-54 Friday night. "We're not running the patterns (on offense) and we're not getting the ball to the right people at the right time."

East St. Louis (2-0 in the Southwestern Conference) led by 20 points early in the fourth quarter. But the Flyers let West (4-2 overall, 0-1 in the SWC) within seven points in the final minute of the game.

"It's rough in this conference - I knew it wasn't going to be easy," Lewis said. "I told the kids, 'You have to play hard the whole game. You can't let up, but that's what we did.'"

Despite a relatively quiet game - at least by his standards - Flyers senior Darius Miles had a team-high 22 points. Fellow senior Phillip Gilbert also played a key role for East St. Louis, scoring 13 of his 17 points in the first half.

"We've got a long way to go from here."

Bennie Lewis
Flyers coach

"Darius Miles is a super basketball player. What else can you say about him?" Maroons coach Bill Schmidt said. "But Gilbert is also a very good player. He gives them two powerful weapons."

A 3-point play by Ramon Kelly gave West an 11-10 lead with 1:25 to play in the first quarter, but a slam by Gilbert gave the Flyers a 14-11 lead heading into the second period. East St. Louis led by as many as 12 points in the second quarter, but West cut the Flyers' lead to five (26-21) on a 3-point play by Kelly. A late basket by Miles put the Flyers ahead 34-25 at halftime.

"I would like to see Ramon have a good game," Schmidt said of Kelly, who scored a game-high 21 points. "He had been struggling, but he showed a little more assertiveness tonight."

See FLYERS, Page B4



T.L. Witt photo

East St. Louis senior Darius Miles scored 22 points against Belleville East on Friday.

Flyers, other powers make tough choice

East St. Louis among marquee programs to skip Coca-Cola/KMOX Shootout for All-Metro Classic

By Scott Fitzgerald
Staff writer

Since 1981, hoop fans have jammed into various St. Louis venues to watch the best in high school basketball square off in the Coca-Cola/KMOX Shootout.

BOYS BASKETBALL Last week's 19th annual event at Kiel Center was no exception. Fans were treated to the rim-rattling action from National Player of the Year candidates Eddie Griffin of Philadelphia Roman Catholic High and DeShawn Stevenson of Fresno (Calif.) Washington Union, as well as the No. 1 team in the nation, Oak Hill Academy, which was upset by Chicago Westinghouse.

But for all the hoopla those featured frequent flyers generated, the teams and players most discussed at this year's event may have been those who didn't participate.

It all started last summer, when Missouri Class 4A champion (Creve Coeur) DeMet, runner-up (St. Louis) Vashon and Illinois power East St. Louis agreed to play in the inaugural Gateway Classic Foundation All-Metro Classic, set for this Friday at Kiel Center. According to Shootout director Keith Pickett, each of those teams had orally committed to do so in last Thursday's Shootout - all prior to last February.

That was before the formula-

"I wish I was (out there) playing. But that's the way it goes."

Darius Miles
Flyers center

tion of the new tournament, in which teams were required to sign a five-year contract of exclusivity, prohibiting their participation in other Kiel Center events that month. Pickett, whose tournament obviously was affected by this, said Thursday that he doesn't understand why the exclusivity clause was necessary.

"I have no problem with someone starting another tournament," Pickett said. "It's great for high school basketball in this area. But I don't understand why teams can't play in both events."

"I thought the whole point of these events was to give kids more exposure. I don't see how limiting a team's options is a good thing."

Like most of the area's players, Darius Miles of East St. Louis grew up watching the Shootout. Pickett believes he and his peers should have had the chance to participate last week. Instead, Miles watched from the sidelines.

See AREA, Page B4

Sports

Young Warriors notch two more victories

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Granite City grappling took a further decisive step toward stability this past weekend. The Warriors wiped the mat clean of Springfield Lanphier (71-12) and Champaign Centennial (63-9), barely breaking a sweat.

The youngest members of the tribe led the home side to victory.

"In both matches we started five freshmen," Granite City coach Allen Kirgan said. "It is really going to help us in the future, and the kids are working hard. But we are having to go back on some of the fundamental things and work on those again. It will come with more experience, but even the older

guys sometimes have to go back over those things."

Kirgan cited sophomore Jake Janek as a standout in the weekend pin festival.

"Jake is wrestling extremely well," Kirgan said. "Against Champaign Centennial we bumped him out to give Bobby (Grammer) a match after the kid he was going to wrestle forfeited."

"But Jake is wrestling like a more experienced kid. He is only a sophomore with limited varsity experience last year. Against Greenwald it was 4-4 in the third before he lost. (Clive Memorial) moved Nick Bland up to shake him up, but he beat him handily. He is wrestling with a lot of confidence. He is doing good things right now."

After a loss to Edwardsville two weeks ago, the Warriors seem to be back on track.

"The team is getting better as we go along, and that is my goal," Kirgan said. "It's hard not to be happy with a team that is 9-1, but I think that they are better than they are wrestling right now."

The loss to the Tigers, a Southwestern Conference opponent, makes the home match against SWC member Belleville West this Thursday that much more important. The Maroons are loaded with sophomore stars, as last year's freshmen (Joe Rujiwajt, Dusty Carpenter, Cole Ford, and Mike Chabattom) return a year more seasoned.

"They had four stud freshmen last year," Kirgan said. "All of them made it to sectionals and all of them won matches at sectionals."

"It should be a good match. They are always a good team. They are well-

coached and always scout their opponents well. It is going to be tough."

Granite City 71, Springfield Lanphier 12.

103 - Donnie Garvie (SL) def. Tony Hartline (CC), by fall, 3:10.
112 - Steven Peach (GC) def. Vince Reese (SL), by fall, 5:1.
119 - Jake Triant (GC) def. Mike Phillips (SL), by fall, 1:44.
125 - Brad Wyatt (GC) wins by forfeit.
130 - Tom Tedesco (GC) wins by forfeit.
135 - Rich Carney (GC) def. Jeremy Young (SL), by fall, 2:8.
140 - Pat Fliegenbutz (GC) def. Trevor Montgomery (SL), by fall, 2:56.
145 - Jim Treakele (GC) def. Anthony Buschur (SL), by fall, 4:27.
152 - Brian Beyrau (GC) def. Denny Carwright (SL), by fall, 1:39.
160 - Larry Meyers (GC) def. Jonas Nelson (SL), by fall, 1:59.
171 - Sal Woods (GC) wins by forfeit.
180 - Bobby Grammer (GC) wins by forfeit.
215 - Jake Janek (GC) def. Isaiah Johnson (SL), 19:2.
275 - Bobby Brents (SL) def. Justin York (GC), by fall, 1:09.

Granite City 63, Champaign Centennial 9.

103 - Tony Hartline (GC) def. Adam Smith (CC), by default.
112 - Steven Peach (GC) def. Paulo Liveness (CC), by technical fall, 4:51.
119 - Jake Triant (GC) def. Josh Rulnic (CC), by technical fall, 5:40.
125 - Brad Wyatt (GC) def. Phillip Photchapen (CC), by fall, 1:35 wins by forfeit.
130 - Tom Tedesco (GC) def. Nick Hatfield (CC), by fall, 3:08.
135 - Eric Patrick (CC) def. Mike Dowdy (GC), 3:2.
140 - Pat Fliegenbutz (GC) def. Tim Callandor (CC), by fall, 1:25.
145 - Tom Treakele (GC) def. Jim Treakele (CC), 6:4.
152 - Brian Beyrau (GC) def. Justin Wedig (CC), 18:3.
160 - Andy Arnold (CC) def. Larry Meyers (GC), 6:2.
171 - Sal Woods (GC) wins by forfeit.
180 - George Kagan (GC) wins by forfeit.
215 - Bobby Grammer (GC) def. Cory Burton (CC), by fall, 2:37.
275 - Justin York (GC) def. David Custer (CC), by fall, 5:8.

Area basketball powers forced to make tough tournament choice

Continued from Page B1

"I wish I was out there playing," said Miles, a St. John's University signee. "But that's the way it goes. I played against Eddie (Griffin) and Vashon before, so it doesn't really matter."

Besides the three aforementioned schools, (St. Louis) Cardinal Ritter, (Richmond Heights) CBC and St. Louis University High also committed to the new tourney. Ritter and SLUH will meet at 5 p.m., followed by CBC vs. East St. Louis at 7. DeSmet and Vashon square off at 9.

Athletic directors Dick Wehner (SLUH) and Ken Luecke (DeSmet) both said the opportunity to play in the new tourney, which guarantees each school \$2,000 per year and a scholarship to a black college after four years, was too good to pass up.

"It's a win-win deal for us," Wehner said. "We were won over by the guarantee of prime time and the chance for our kids to

play at Kiel every year.

"We haven't been in the Shootout for quite a while (SLUH's last appearance was in 1993). And in that, we got one dollar for every ticket we sold."

Luecke said going with the new tournament was in the best interest of the school.

"At first all of us had a problem with the exclusivity (clause)," Luecke said. "And we talked a lot about it. But the Gateway Classic people are offering us a great opportunity so we felt we had to do what was in the best interest of our students and our school."

Earl Wilson, executive director of the Gateway Classic Foundation, said the exclusivity clause was nothing personal (against the Shootout), but was strictly "a business decision."

Wilson said he believes much of the mystique surrounding the games in his tourney — particu-

larly the DeSmet-Vashon matchup and the appearance of Miles — would be lost if those players had appeared in the Shootout the week before.

"We're investing a lot of money in this new tournament, so it just made good business sense to me," Wilson said. "As far as the Shootout, these teams have no guarantee they will be in it every year."

"If I'm going to build up a tradition, I've got to get the best teams I can."

Wilson said this Friday's event is modeled after the Martin Luther King Classic that was begun several years ago. After small crowds the first few years, Wilson said total attendance reached 14,000 at last year's three-game event.

Wilson added that he has approached Gateway Tech, the defending Class A girls champion, and runner-up St. Joseph's Academy, about playing in a girls game at next season's event.

Flyers hold off Belleville West

Continued from Page B1

A reverse dunk at the buzzer by Miles gave East St. Louis an 18-point lead after three quarters, and a basket by former West player DeMarco Smith put the Flyers ahead by 20 (53-33) early in the fourth quarter.

But the Maroons made a 17-4 run to close

within 57-50 with 43 seconds to play. Miles made a pair of free throws and a dazzling dunk to put the game away.

"I don't like to lose, but I'm very proud of the kids' effort," Schmidt said. "East St. Louis is a very good basketball team, but we did a lot of good things tonight. We played some good half-court defense and did some nice things offensive-ly."

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Sports.

GCHS graduate Shanafelt playing for MacMurray basketball team

Jan Shanafelt of Granite City is a 5-foot-8 freshman guard on the 1999-2000 basketball team at MacMurray College in Jacksonville.

The Lady Highlanders, who will play 28 games, have already competed in the Boldt Tip-Off Tournament in Milwaukee. They beat Rockford College 68-67 but lost to Wisconsin Lutheran 83-61.

They returned home to beat cross-town rival Illinois College 66-60.

The Mac women compete in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference against Fontbonne, Webster, Maryville, Greenville, Principia, Blackburn, and Westminster.

The SLIAC winner will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III National Tournament.

Don Mulhern is in his eighth season as head coach of the Lady Highlanders basketball squad. "The chemistry on this team appears to be very strong. It is important for this team to stay focused on attaining their goals," said Mulhern.

"I am pleased to have Jan as part of our program."

The daughter of Ronald and Shari Shanafelt of Granite City, Shanafelt is a graduate of Granite City Senior High School. She is majoring in physical education at MacMurray, a private, career-directed liberal arts college affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Bowling party

AMF Bowland in Granite City will host a party on Dec. 23 for underprivileged kids from Catholic Charities and Peace Church.

Bowland has a 10-foot stocking, which is full of goodies. The alley has started selling raffle tickets for the stocking (\$1 each or six for \$5) and will pick a winner on Dec. 21. The next day, officials at Bowland will take the money raised from the raffle and use it to buy toys, which they will then distribute at the party on Dec. 23.

To purchase a raffle ticket, please stop by Bowland.

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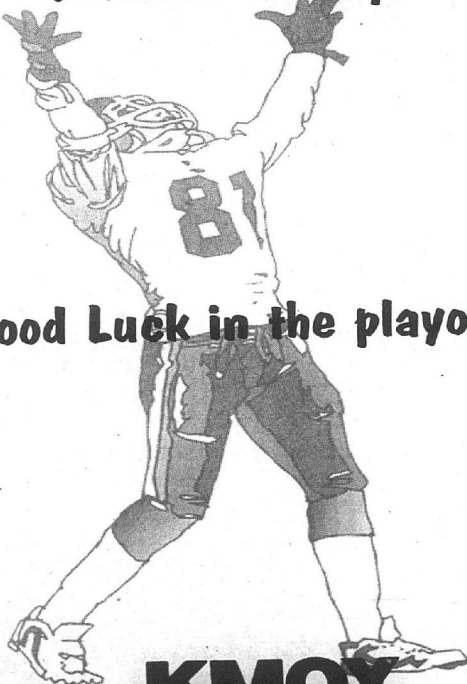
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Senior Focus

Observe safety tips for holidays

Use caution when shopping this season

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

Be thankful if you're not mugged, burglarized or worse.

"Tis the season to take advantage of people, authorities say.

"All types of crime increase with the holidays,"

METRO EAST said Capt. Rick McCain of the Alton Police Department.

Police agencies and the Madison County Public Health Department are offering a few words of advice to help make the holiday season tougher on the bad guys and better for you.

It all starts with Friday's anticipated shopping binge, said Chae Li Yong, an educator at the Health Department.

When shopping, make sure you keep your wallet or purse close to your body - in front of you where you can see and feel it. Use purses with flaps or zippers. It makes it more dif-

ficult for a pickpocket. "Be careful of using those backpack purses," Yong said.

Also, do not overburden yourself with packages, as

"All types of Ac crime increase with the holidays."

Capt. Rick McCain
Alton Police Department

that makes it difficult for you to keep track of your belongings. And don't leave packages visible in your vehicle.

"It also makes it easier for the criminal," she said. Tell children that if they get lost to go to the nearest store clerk or security guard.

There also are a few things to think about while you're driving between stores. Among them:

Back into parking spaces - it lessens the

chances of someone trapping you;

Keep your doors locked. Park close to parking attendants, elevators or stairwells;

Park in well-lighted spaces.

"Criminals have been known to 'bump' a car and then forcibly take control of the car when the driver gets out to inspect damages," Yong said. Do not get out of the car unless it is in a well-lighted area, she said.

Be suspicious, too, of holiday frauds.

When asked for a donation, insist on proper identification. Watch out for organizations whose names are similar to well-known ones. In general, give only to charities you know, Yong said.

The same common sense rules apply to protecting one's home. Gifts should not be displayed near a window, doors should be locked, lights should remain on when you're gone, and neighbors should be advised to keep an eye on the house.

Safety first when using home heating equipment

By Michael Heil
Staff writer

Everyone knows Dec. 25 is Christmas day, but does everybody realize that Dec. 21 is the first day of winter. That means of course that cold weather is lurking around the corner, ready to burst onto the scene for the next three months in the way of freezing rain, snow and quite possibly frigid temperatures.

Therefore, when pulling out space heaters, stacking

METRO EAST logs or turning up thermostats,

remember to practice fire safety because the leading cause of fire in the United States is due to heat-related equipment used to keep people warm. Fireplaces, portable heaters and wood stoves are especially dangerous, signaling the need for safety measures to reduce the risk of fires.

For the past five years, heating devices have caused an average of 800 residential fires, six deaths and 73 injuries and more than \$7.82

"Proper handling, understanding and operation of heating equipment are essential to preventing related fires and subsequent deaths and injuries."

Thomas Armstead
State fire marshal

million in property damage in Illinois, according to a study registered by the National Fire Incident Reporting System.

"Many of the home heating related fires could have been prevented with care and caution," State Fire Marshal Thomas Armstead said. "Proper handling, understanding and operation of heating equipment are essential to preventing related fires and subsequent

deaths and injuries."

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal advocates that all heating units carry the label of a recognized testing laboratory before being purchased and that users follow the manufacturers' installation, operation and maintenance instructions on the devices. OSFM recommends that heating units should be checked and cleaned professionally each season and that heating equipment meet local fire codes.

In addition, OSFM advises that space heaters should be placed at least 36 inches away from anything combustible and should never be left unattended. OSFM advocates the burning of proper fuels in heating devices, and not green wood, trash or paper in wood stoves or fireplaces.

As far as electrical fires, they are more prevalent this time of year, according to OSFM, because of electrical outlets being overloaded to light Christmas decorations. OSFM suggests checking fuses regularly and using extension cords sparingly.

Remember safety first with kids during winter activity season

By Jennifer Saxton
Staff writer

Winter activities, such as sledding and ice skating, can be dangerous and even fatal if the right precautions are not taken.

The Madison County SAFE KIDS program wants everyone to have a happy holiday, but also hopes that everyone remembers safety first.

"While winter provides children with fun activities, those activities can be life-threatening," said Chae Li Yong, Madison County Health Department.

Yong said parents should

keep an eye on children when they are playing outside in extreme cold.

SAFE KIDS suggests ways to reduce the risk of injury for many outdoor activities such as sledding.

More than 18,000 children ages 5 to 14 were treated in the emergency rooms in 1996 for injuries related to sledding.

When a child is about to go sledding for the afternoon, parents should remind them to:

• Sled only on terrain that is free of obstacles;

• Make sure that the

people in front of you have cleared your path before

starting down a slope;

• Teach children to stay out of the way when going up the slope;

• Make sure the bottom of the slope is far from streets and traffic;

• Always use a sled with a steering mechanism. Avoid makeshift sleds;

• Avoid lying flat on the sled while riding down hill;

• Never ride in a sled that is being pulled by a motorized vehicle;

• Make sure that the

number of children riding on the sled does not exceed the manufacturer's recommendations.

In many areas that do

not have man-made ice rinks, often a frozen lake or pond is the chosen place for ice skating during the winter.

In East Wareham, Mass., 5-year-old Jonathan L'Esperance was told not to, but instead went onto the frozen pond near his house. Jonathan fell

through the ice and his father found him nearly 25 minutes later. He survived his icy water experience, but not after a long and weary recovery. After slowly emerging from a coma after seven months, Jonathan has been able to learn to walk and speak

again.

Often drowning is associated with the hot summer months, but with the increased use of hot tubs and whirlpools as well as weak ice and hidden bodies of water, precautions need to be taken.

Parents and caregivers should:

• Supervise children in or near a pool, hot tub or any body of water;

• Beware of children overheating in hot tubs and whirlpools.

• Make sure pools and spas are secure;

• Allow children to skate only on ponds or lakes that have been approved for skating.

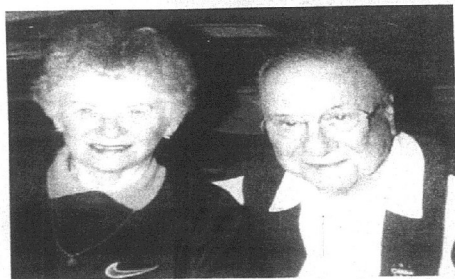
Madison County offers more safety tips for several other winter activities. For more information, contact the Madison County Health Department at 692-7040.

Young at Heart holds monthly meeting

The Young at Heart senior citizens of Holy Family Catholic Church recently had its monthly meeting in the church community center.

Donna Fisher, director of organization training and development, talked to members about the many services St. Elizabeth Medical Center offers. In January 1921, the Sisters of Divine Providence bought the Granite City hospital. From 1921 to today, the Sister of Divine Providence have continued to demonstrate faith and commitment to the healing ministry at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. The medical staff has more than 150 physicians in 31 specialties.

The Koch Family Health Center provides doctors for low income area residents. Hospice of Madison County, emotional and medical support for terminally ill patients, Unite Advantage senior services provides health testing and prescription discounts, special events and trips. The hospital has added a medical center with free brochures on a number of diseases with Internet connection for



Submitted photo

further reference.

After Donna Fisher's talk, minutes of the October meeting were read by the recording secretary, Cleo Schnefke, followed by the treasurer's report by Goldie Rozycke. Corresponding secretary Louise Kovar received a thank you card from Cathy Sparks for the donation she received for the New Beginnings. Friendship chairperson Mary Rita Ahlers sent get well cards to the following members: Cathy Wiese, Cathy Mathes, Ann Ruder

and Thelma Simmons. Birthdays celebrated in November were:

Jean Francis, Rosemary Rudy and Eleanor Vrabec.

Sister Jean Patrick, spiritual advisor, asked members if they would be willing to fill small gift bags to be given to nursing home residents and shut-ins. Gift bags should be returned to the Community center before Dec. 20.

This year's Christmas dinner will be at 6 p.m. Dec. 20 at the regular



Submitted photo

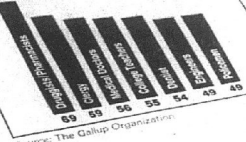
Donna Fisher spoke at the meeting.

monthly meeting. The cost is \$7.

December's entertainment is a group of young girls from St. Louis and St. Louis County - Broadway on the Driveway.

Attendance prizes were won by Catherine Fedora, Louise Gwasadac, Ellen Reeves, Ann Konopka, Sister Jean Patrick, Pete Ferro and Marilyn Schooley.

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Entertainment

Cardinals, woodpeckers, finches find food at different locations

By Stephanie Platt

It is amazing how the bright red feathers of a cardinal can brighten up any cold winter day. To attract these and other resident birds to your home, it is important to provide them with a feeding environment as close to their natural environment as possible.

Doyle Banks, owner of the Wild Bird Marketplace in Manchester, has been an avid bird-watcher for more than 25 years. Banks says now is the perfect time to start feeding the birds.

"It's a great time to start. Resident birds are preparing for the winter and many interesting migratory birds are starting to fly in," Banks said.

HOBBIES

But before you go out and buy a feeder you should know what kind of birds you want to attract.

"You don't have to spend a billion dollars at it, but you do have to know what you're doing," Banks said. Different bird feeders and seeds will draw different birds.

"Birds have survived all these years by carving out different locations to eat," Banks said. "The closer your feeders are to the birds' natural environment, the more birds you will have."

Some birds, like finches, chickadees and titmice, are perching birds that like to eat from tree and bush branches. Other birds are ground feeders that like a large flat surface to eat from.

Cardinals, blue jays and mourning doves are ground feeding birds. Birds like woodpeckers and nuthatches are clinging birds that like to find their food in tree trunks.

There is a type of feeder built to fit the eating environment of any finchy bird. The three main types of feeders are tube feeders, platform feeders and suet feeders. A complete feeding station would have one of each type of feeder. Banks recommends hanging feeders about 8 to 10 feet apart and about 12 to 15 feet from the shelter of trees or bushes.

Tube feeders are long tubes with round holes or slits for the birds to feed from. Tubes with slits hold only thistle seeds and only attract finches.

"There is a philosophy to tube feeders. The tube feeders are a substitute for the trunk of a tree or bush and the perches are branches. The holes that the birds eat from represent seed pods," Banks said.

Tube feeders attract finches and smaller birds. St. Louis has two resident finches, the gold finch and the house finch. In the winter St. Louisians will also see purple finches and pine siskins.

Banks recommends buying a tube feeder with open ports and filling it with shelled cracked sunflower chips. The feeder will then attract all four finches and other perching birds. By adding a tray to the bottom of the feeder, you can draw up some of the cardinals and blue jays that are typically ground feeding birds.

Banks feels it is important to by a tube feeder with a baffle or plastic disk at the bottom. This prevents feed from settling at the bottom, out of the reach of the bird. Trapped feed can become moldy and spread disease. A quality bird feeder that will survive the winter costs between \$15 and \$35.

Platform feeders come in many different styles, but all spread the food out on a flat surface to attract ground feeders. They are made out of wood. Banks said the better ones are made out of cedar.

The simplest ground feeder looks like a picture frame with screen. It can be hung or placed on a stand near the house.

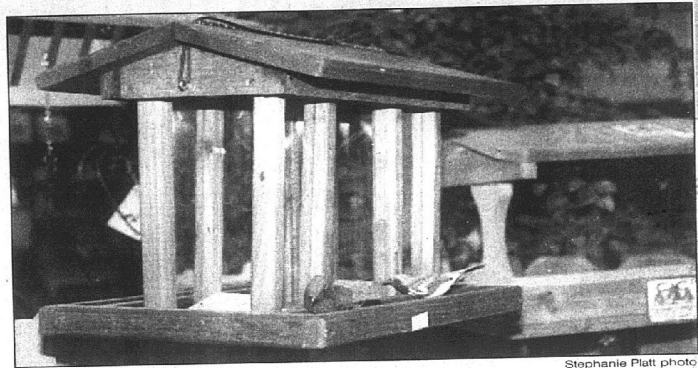
The problem with this style is that the seed is open to the environment and needs to be maintained," Banks said.

The fly-through design is an open platform with a roof to protect the seed. The main feature of this feeder is that birds can fly under the roof.

The most popular platform feeder is the hopper into and dispensed like a hopper onto a platform. The only drawback to this is the limited amount of platform space for birds to feed on.

A good platform feeder costs between \$10 and \$50 depending on the size and style. Banks said good feeders should have screw construction and have full size metal hinges on the roof.

Banks recommends filling these feeders with a



Stephanie Platt photo

A hopper feeder attracts cardinals and blue jays even in winter.

good seed mix with lots of black oil sunflower seeds, safflower, peanuts, cracked corn and white proso millet. Banks said to avoid mixes with milo in it. He said it was cheap filler that most mid-west birds do not eat and in the long run is a waste of your money.

Suet feeders attract clinging birds. The rendered suet is similar to the larva that woodpeckers and nuthatches would find in tree trunks. Suet is a wonderful winter feed because it is high in fat, which is important to keeping the birds warm in the winter.

"Birds eat for heat," Banks said. "Most birds don't die from starving to death. They die from freezing to death."

Banks also said it was important to provide a shallow source of water, even in the winter.

"Birds drink to avoid dehydration and some birds bath 12 months a year. Bathing is critical to keep their feathers clean for flying," Banks said. Bird watching is a very popular past time in our country. With a little planning and preparation the average homeowner can have colorful birds flocking to their yard all winter long.

Movie listings

Film timetable for Wednesday, Dec. 15. For times on other days or to confirm these times, check local theaters.

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Pokemon (G) 7:15, 9:15

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The Green Mile (R) 4:20,

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8:10 Deuce Bigalow (R) 4:40,

7:15 Toy Story 2 (G) 4:10, 6:45
Sleepy Hollow (R) 4:50,

7:30 End Of Days (R) 4:30, 7:00
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 5:00, 7:45

COTTONWOOD
EDWARDSVILLE CINEMA
Edwardsville, Ill., 656-6390
Pokemon (G) 6:45
Three To Tango (PG-13)

7:15 GALLERIA 6
30 St. Louis Galleria, 721-

8722 Dogma (R) 2:00, 5:30, 8:10
Toy Story 2 (G) 1:35, 3:40,

5:50, 8:00 Toy Story 2 (G) 2:30, 5:00,
7:15 Anywhere But Here (PG-13)
2:15, 5:45, 8:15

Pokemon (G) 1:40, 3:45,

5:55 American Beauty (R) 8:10
The Insider (R) 1:30, 4:40,

7:50 HALLS FERRY 14 CINE
2600 Target Drive, 822-2463
The Green Mile (R) 4:30,

8:00 Deuce Bigalow (R) 5:15,
7:30, 9:20 End Of Days (R) 4:25, 7:00,

9:25 Toy Story 2 (G) 4:45, 7:05,
9:10 The Bachelor (PG-13) 4:45,

9:40 Music Of The Heart (PG)
7:15 Sleepy Hollow (R) 4:50,

7:10, 9:15 House On Haunted Hill (R)
5:00, 7:00, 9:00 The Bone Collector (R)

4:45, 7:20, 9:40 The World Is Not Enough

(PG-13) 4:35, 7:05, 9:40

Light It Up (R) 5:05, 7:35,

9:45 Sixth Sense (PG-13) 4:55,
7:40, 9:45 The Best Man (R) 4:40,

7:20, 9:35 Pokemon (G) 5:15, 7:30,
9:30 Omega Code (PG-13) 5:30,

7:45, 9:45 LINCOLN THEATER
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Mystery Men (PG-13) 7:00,
9:25 Arlington Road (R) 7:05,

9:30 Universal Soldier (R) 7:15,
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6630 Toy Story 2 (G) 6:45
Sleepy Hollow (R) 7:00

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BAC honors volunteers for years of service

More than 1,000 volunteers were honored for their contributions to their communities during Belleville area College's Programs and Services for Older Persons annual Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Luncheon, held recently at Fischer's Restaurant in Belleville.



Recognized for 10 years of service were: (back row, left to right) Irma Manning of Granite City, Arthur Wylie of Marissa and Doris Lyke of Belleville; (front row) Mabel Schickel of Marissa, Louise Voegtli of Belleville, Margaret Quade of Swansea and Josephine Stengel of Collinsville. They each received a 10-year service pin.



Also receiving pins for 10 years of service were: (back row, left to right) Zennie Herring of Collinsville, Emerson "Jake" Hough of Belleville, Sylvia Hennessy of Cahokia, Angelita Dunn of Fairview Heights and Margaret Fatus and Grace Kelm, both of Belleville; (front row) Delores Klingelhoefer and Josephine Bartelbort, both of Belleville, Mathilda Andrzejewski of Fairview Heights, Elizabeth Ahlers of Froeburg, Mildred Gorman of Marissa and Anita Bleser of Collinsville.



Recognized for five years of service were: (back row, left to right) Olga Simurda of Granite City, Richard Wagner and Nina Schott, both of Belleville, and Meridene Wilson of New Athens; (front row) Lorraine Schlich of Belleville and Lyle Louise Steele of Marissa. They each received a five-year service pin.



Also receiving five-year pins for service were: (back row, left to right) Gladys Smith of Highland, Gilbert Kariza of Belleville, J. Everett Roddy of Marissa, Edmund Reissen of Belleville, and Anna Pawlow of Fairview Heights; (front row) Loretta McFarling and Mary Kay Martz, both of Belleville, Lorraine Menard of New Athens, Mary Mize of Granite City and Darlene Noe of Cahokia.

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026 MAZDA 026 MAZDA

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030 NISSAN 030 NISSAN

032 PONTIAC 032 PONTIAC

034 SUBARU 034 SUBARU

036 TOYOTA 036 TOYOTA

038 VOLVO 038 VOLVO

040 OTHER 040 OTHER

Minimize impact of holiday blues

The holiday season generally is characterized by images of merriment and good cheer. However, this imagery doesn't always hold true.

The holidays often carry undertones of unhappiness, disappointment, loneliness or outright depression. Ironically, the public merriment around us can intensify sad feelings funneled into the season from experiences during the other 11 months of the year.

Here are some suggestions parents can use to head off the holiday blues for themselves and their loved ones:

- Set a sane pace for yourself.

Be willing to limit what you do. Determine your priorities, tackle them and eliminate nonessentials.

It is important to preserve one's physical and emotional health. A parent frazzled by the frenetic pace of less meaningful activities will not be emotionally available to take advantage of the precious family togetherness that accompanies the holidays.

- Put yourself on your calendar.

Because the holiday season

can be stressful, schedule time to relax, exercise and partake in activities you enjoy.

- Identify any unhappy occurrences that affected your family during the past year.

Deaths in the family, personal failures or family tensions can set the emotional tone during the celebratory season. Identify these events, see if they are resolved and talk openly about anticipated feelings that may surface.

For example, although my family grieved intensely when my mother died in May, Christmas without her will stir up fresh memories and emotions among all her children and grandchildren.

Only after you have acknowledged the reality of these experiences, and the power of the emotions they generate, are you ready to focus on the positive aspects of the past

year and the upcoming holidays.

- Review issues from previous holidays that could cause problems this year.



Dennis O'Brien

FAMILY MATTERS

Such problems include scheduling conflicts, personality clashes, monetary worries and child care issues. Think about how these problems should have been handled. Confer with your spouse and create a plan that will work.

- Validate feelings of sadness or disappointment.

Children, especially adolescents, may experience confusion when their emotions don't conform to the holiday mold. They believe they must feel joyful, fulfilled and close to their family during the holiday season - even when that's not the case.

If you sense some unhappiness in your child, check it out. Ask how your child is feeling, listening carefully to his or her response. Convey that these kinds of feelings are completely normal, reassure your love for your child and check back with him or her regularly.

- Do things together.

Schedule activities that help your family bond together. For instance, a journey to select and cut down a Christmas tree is not nearly as efficient as buying one from the lot down the street, but the

experience can be a wonderful family activity. Combine it with a meal and make the journey an annual tradition.

Anticipation, thoughtfulness and common sense can help minimize the impact of the holiday blues and make the entire season a healthier one for your

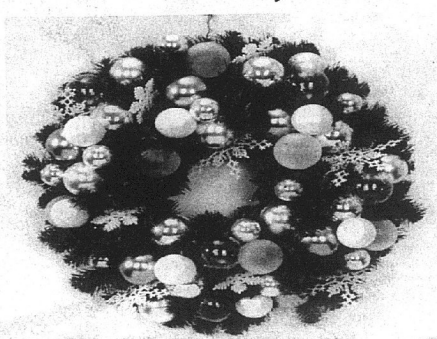
entire family.

Dennis O'Brien is a licensed clinical social worker, experienced educator and therapist, and executive director of Zink the Zebra Foundation of St. Louis, an organization serving medically fragile children.

First Snowfall Mantel Wreath by the experts at

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Where Beautiful Things Begin



The Magnolia Bouquet wreath featured in Sunday's Journal was indeed beautiful, we must admit. But we're not finished. We proudly present another equally gorgeous creation, the First Snowfall Mantel Wreath.

It will not only look beautiful on your mantel, but just about anywhere else in your home or office. And it's a snap to make, with these easy-to-follow instructions. Everything you'll need is available at your nearest Frank's store.

- One 24" wreath
- One box of large frosted glass ornaments
- One box of large clear glass ornaments
- One box of large antique silver glass ornaments
- One box of medium white glass ornaments
- One box of small silver glass ornaments
- Six small plastic/glitter snowflake ornaments
- Six large plastic/glitter snowflake ornaments
- Glue gun and clear drying glue

STEP 1
Shape and fluff all branches of the wreath. Using the photo as a guide, place large antique silver and frosted glass ornaments in random, but evenly spaced, clusters over the wreath. Glue into place.

STEP 2
Do the same with large clear and medium white glass ornaments, adding to the clusters previously glued. Finish by adding the small silver glass ornaments and glue into place.

STEP 3
Wedge and glue small and large snowflakes at various angles evenly throughout the wreath.

This and Sunday's wreath project are but two of the many beautiful craft projects you can create with easy instructions, available at Frank's. And they're free. Stop in soon!

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Watch Sunday's Journal for more tips from the experts at Frank's!

Students named to National Dean's List

Students from Granite City are among the students included in the 22nd annual edition of the National Dean's List, 1998-99.

Students selected include:

Kindra Allen, Belleville Area College; Scott Blomgren, Ranken Tech College; Michael Bristol, Western Illinois University; Dee Anna Byrd, Belleville Area College; Ginger Daniels, Belleville Area College; Andrea Davis, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Vincent Donnal, Belleville Area College; Sherri Finke, Belleville Area College; Evon Hicks, Belleville Area College; Bryan Johnson, Evangel University; Mark Lull, Belleville Area College; Nikki Rodgers, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Shannon Shemwell, Ranken Tech College; Leigh Stange, Belleville Area College; Mike Stone, Quincy University; Cynthia Thiek, Belleville Area College; Jaime Thompson, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Anthony Turnbough, Belleville Area College; Roy Weathers, Belleville Area College; Julie Wilkinson, Belleville Area College.

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Today's Food

www.yourjournal.com



Test Run
Gingerbread cookies
pass test for "easy"
See Page 2

Food & Nutrition

Wise Ways

Wrap up last-minute gift of drink mix with bow and instructions for warming.
INSIDE

Heart-y Bites

Stuffing can be full of flavor without dressing up in fat.
INSIDE

Blue Ribbon Cook

Turkey with dressing becomes an easy overnight sensation for heating.
INSIDE

Micro Raves

Sandwiches solve dilemma for what to serve without need for forks.
INSIDE

Lively Taste

A pasta salad with fruit enhances the texture of holiday-shaped pasta. Cook 15 ounces shaped or small tubular pasta as package directs for al dente texture. Drain. Gently mix with 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breast, cooked and chopped, 1 cup red and green grape halves, 1/2 cup chopped apple, 1/2 cup sliced banana, 3 oranges, sectioned, and 1 bunch of green onions, sliced. Whisk together 3/4 cup frozen orange juice concentrate (thawed), 1/4 cup oil, 1/4 cup white wine vinegar, 1 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Pour dressing over pasta mixture and mix gently again. If desired, any combination of grapes, apples, banana and pear can be used. Makes 8 servings.

Health & Fitness

Medicine Chest

One holiday pound a year from over-indulging adds up on the scale and waistline.
INSIDE

Fresh Picks

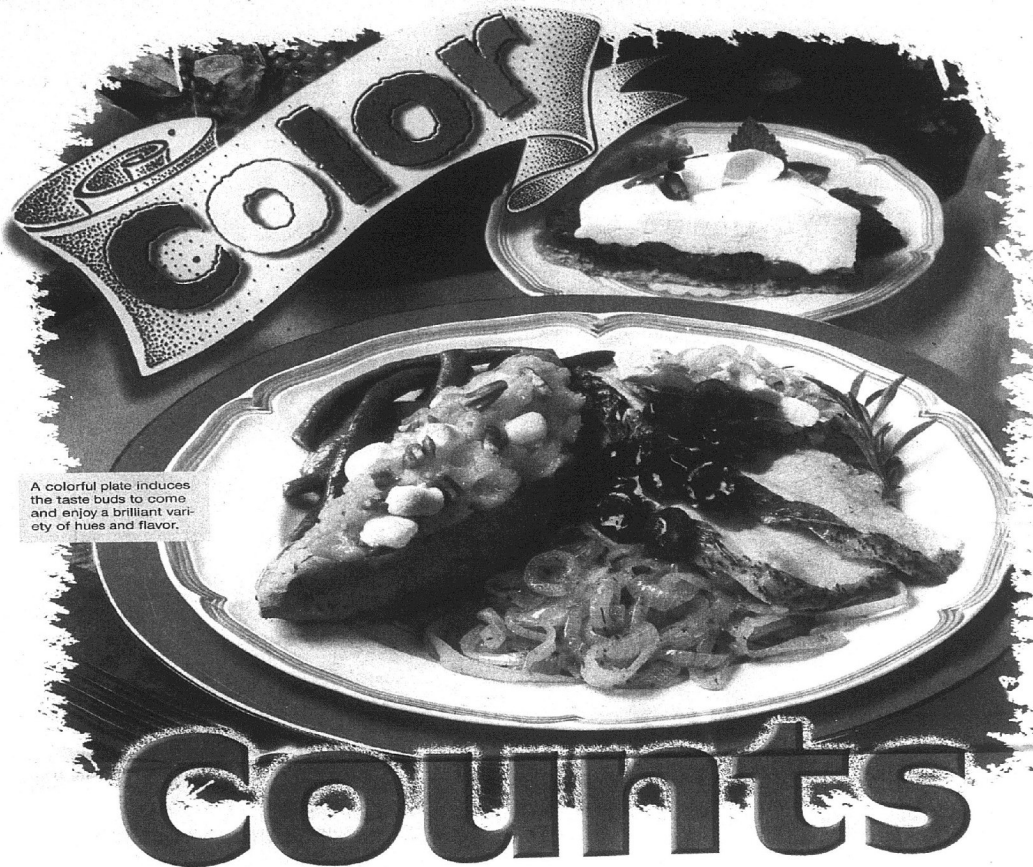
Not only do darker greens have more nutrition, but they add beauty to salad. Lettuce is a good source of vitamin K. A recent study showed it helped lower risk of hip fracture among women. It is as versatile as it is beautiful. Long-leafed and slender romaine is popular, but lighter green iceberg, should be kept in a crisper drawer or ventilated plastic bag in the coldest part of the refrigerator. Romaine or butterhead lettuce has a soft, buttery texture and sweet flavor. Red leaf Boston is a little sweeter. Its heads should be crisp with bright green outer leaves. Bibb is smaller, sweeter and crispier. Red or green leaf lettuce is loosely bunched and curly. It creates salad with a frilly or soft feel or makes an attractive bed for other foods. The red is more fragile than the green. Dark-green escarole and red radicchio hold a tang.

Big Fat Tip

Add a glow to winter vegetables with an easy peach glaze. In a small saucepan, mix together 1 jar (12 ounces) apricot or peach preserves, 2 tablespoons lemon juice (bottled or fresh) and 1 tablespoon margarine or butter. While mixing well, bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Simmer 10 to 15 minutes to blend flavors. Glaze carrots, sweet potatoes or Brussels sprouts with peachy mixture.

Future Shop

Egg sales soar during December. Weekly demand matches the weeks before Easter. Baking accounts for most of their popularity. Options go beyond regular eggs. "Free range" or "cage-free" refers to hens raised outdoors or that have daily access to outdoors. Diet contributes to others with vitamins or omega-3s. Hens fed ingredients with minimal use of pesticides, herbicides or other agricultural chemicals produce "organic" eggs. For safety reasons, pasteurized egg should be used when making eggnog.



A colorful plate induces the taste buds to come and enjoy a brilliant variety of hues and flavor.

Berries and sweet potatoes add glow to winter

By Janice Denham
Staff writer

In spite of their vivid flavor, sweet potatoes and cranberries would be boring in black and white. Every season has colorful flags that advertise classic flavors. The ability to match those colors with likable counterparts gives broad appeal to a menu. Even sprinkling fresh cranberries on a plate amid cookies adds joyful color to brown baked treats.

Combinations of red and green are table brighteners, too. Candied cherries come in both colors. Red pimento sharpens leafy salads. Slices of red bell pepper and cherry- or pear-shaped tomatoes pep up a fresh vegetable tray alongside sliced zucchini and cucumber.

Cooking enhances the color

of sweet potato. It provides a flavor match with onion. This combination can be made ahead, refrigerated and reheated, if the timing is more convenient.

First, cook 3 medium onions, cut in wedges, and 3 pounds sweet potatoes, cut in 1-inch chunks, in 2 tablespoons butter or margarine about 20 minutes until they are light golden brown. Add 1/2 cup white wine, 1/2 cup chicken broth and 1 teaspoon crushed thyme.

Simmer, covered, 15 to 20 minutes until potato is tender and liquid is almost absorbed.

Twice-baked sweet potatoes are impressive, too. Bake 8 small, unpeeled sweet potatoes (3 pounds) in a preheated 400 degree oven about 1 hour until tender. Cool 15 minutes. Cut a thin slice off top of each potato. Carefully scoop

the pulp into a bowl, leaving shells intact.

Mash the pulp. Stir in 1/2 cup golden raisins, 1 tablespoon light brown sugar, 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon, 1 can (8 ounces) crushed pineapple in juice, drained, and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Spoon it back into the shells, then sprinkle with chopped pecans and mini marshmallows.

Reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees. Bake 15 minutes longer until thoroughly hot.

For more sweet potato recipes, call toll-free 1-800-522-4742 or write to: Louisiana Sweet Potato Commission, P.O. Box 2550, Baton Rouge, La. 70821-2550. Refer to "Sweet and Savory."

For free recipes using dried

See COLOR.
INSIDE TODAY'S FOOD Page 2

Village House

Base: Rinse carton and staple or tape top closed. If desired, cut away and discard 2-1/2 inches from carton bottom. Place top portion on waxed paper. Cut 2 whole graham crackers in half lengthwise along perforation to form total of 4 long pieces. Using icing, attach 1 whole cracker and 1 long piece to each side of carton, keeping crackers even with bottom edge and centering on carton. To form roof, attach 1 whole graham cracker at top between side of house and top ridge of carton, using white icing under cracker to build cracker to ridge height. Cut triangular pieces of graham crackers to fit side under roof peak.

Roof: Working on one

side at a time and from bottom up, spread icing generously and press candy or crackers into it. Trim large pieces as needed.

Trim: Use candy and cookies for decorating, always attaching with Royal Icing. For chimney, stack 3 hollowed-out pieces of bubble gum and place cookie character inside. White Royal Icing sets quickly; it can be piped. Use decorator icing for wreaths and details.

Peach: If making a flat roof or patio, use striped gum pieces for rail and stand cookie characters inside.

White Royal Icing: Using high speed of electric mixer in non-plastic bowl, beat together 2 tablespoons powdered egg

2-quart cardboard milk or juice carton, clean and dry
Whole (5-by-2-1/2 inch) honey graham crackers
White Royal Icing
Striped gum for fence and windows
Gumdrops
20 large Life Savers candies, crackers or
shredded wheat for roof
Tea biscuit for door
Holiday character cookies
Red and green decorator icings

water, 6 tablespoons warm cream of tartar until blended. (Powdered egg white is available at some supermarkets and at specialty shops where candy-making products are sold.) Blend in 1 package (16 ounces) confectioner's sugar at low speed, then beat about 5 minutes until stiff peaks form. Keep frosting covered with damp dishtowel at all times it is being used. Icing will store up to two weeks with plastic wrap placed directly on frosting surface. Avoid making in humid weather.



Kids' Cuisine

Today's Food

Spicy reputations follow gingerbread cookies

The life of a gingerbread cookie is short, according to testing experience for three versions in this week's Test Run.

Three ready-made gingerbread cookies—these were snowmen,

others were available in tree shapes—came with two tubes of decorator icing in red and green, candies and sprinkles for \$4.99. They are available packaged in various departments, including bakery, at local markets.

New was Pillsbury gingerbread cookie dough, refrigerated and ready to roll and cut for about \$2.49. The third was another Pillsbury product, a dry bread mix for \$1.59 that also carries directions for making into cookies.

The three showed a wide spectrum of gingerbread.

The Create-a-Snowman had a mild flavor. A tester called it "more ginger and less sweetener."

Another tester thought it was a fair trade for easy use, although she missed the "homemade" quality.

"What the snowman cook-



Gingerbread cookies come ready for decorating with little or no mixing.

ies lacked in taste, they made up for with convenience. I like the fact that they came with all the decorating supplies. Overall, I think it was a good price for the three large cookies and everything needed to bring them to life," she said.

Another tester liked the gingerbread flavor and everything about the product.

"I think it's a fun idea for an afternoon project. The best part is the small bags of candy for decorations. You're not wasting a whole bag on a few cookies. (It's) definitely worth the price," she said.

One tester made the other two products.

The ready-made dough was easy to spread. It needs to be chilled for best results. I had more to look with the dry mix. It seemed dry, but it held together, which is what the directions said. However, it probably did need a little more water," she said.

She thought the effort to make the mix sound easy did not give enough direction for the uninitiated in rolling out cookies. The box product could be kneaded by hand to get better performance without the stiffness after being

chilled. "As they baked, however, the dough held together well in spite of the dryness," she said.

Although there were variations, the ready-made dough pulled ahead among the testers for flavor. Cut into bears shapes, they were lighter in color, less crisp and milder in flavor.

"To coin a phrase from Goldilocks, 'They were just right,'" a tester said. She said they weren't too hard, too soft, too sweet or too bitter.

Another liked their crispness, but enjoyed the mixed ones for other reasons.

"The dairy case dough cookies seem to have risen in the baking process and were lighter than I would expect. I prefer the box mix though as they had a richer, more gingery taste and texture like gingersnaps," she said.

Another added, "You gotta love just adding water and margarine for cookies that become homemade."

The person who baked them said the pre-baked batter of the box mix was strong in spice, which baked into a mellow, though sharp, flavor.

Tradition stuffs bread-based dressing

By Cheryl Houston
Correspondent

Arguments about calling the favorite side dish stuffing or dressing are mute, because people are too busy eating it from the holiday table.

Most traditional stuffings are based on bread of some kind and begin with sautéing vegetables, such as onions and celery. Beyond that, ethnic, personal and regional preferences produce countless variations.

In New England folks favor fennel and sausage while those in the South favor unsweetened cornbread and bell peppers. For stuffing with a Tex-Mex flair, nothing beats chorizo and hot chili peppers. Oysters and toasted pecans flavor stuffing made in the Pacific Northwest.

The type of bread and preparation of other ingredients affects whether stuffing is dry, moist or fluffy. Day-old or toasted bread cubes produce drier stuffing. Soft, fresh bread yields spongy, dense stuffing with a texture similar to mashed potatoes.

Traditional stuffing been made from white bread and fatty ingredients is out, while

newer, healthier, more flavorful dressings are in.

Melted fat—usually butter, bacon or other meat drippings, or whole egg—is not the only thing that makes stuffing moist.

A cook with heart health in mind can achieve the same moistness by relying on fat-free broth, skim milk, wine, egg whites or reduced-fat margarine. Bold flavor combinations—like dried cherries and walnuts, apricots and almonds, cranberries and filberts—also intensify flavors.

While nuts as a rule are high in total fat, the type of fat they contain is monounsaturated. Because they are so rich, a small amount adds much flavor and texture to any stuffing.

Baking stuffing separately outside the bird avoids absorption of fat-laden juices from the bird.

When it is used inside a bird, stuffing can be made ahead and refrigerated up to 2 days. When making it ahead, add egg to the mixture only when ingredients are reheated just before baking. To be safe, stuffing in a bird should register 160 degrees when a meat thermometer is inserted in the center of the cavity.

Registered dietician Cheryl

Houston is a member of the nutrition committee of the

American Heart Association, Greater St. Louis Division.

ARTICHOKE PARMESAN SOURDOUGH DRESSING

- 1 loaf (1 lb.) sourdough bread, cut in 1/2 inch cubes
- 1 tsp. margarine
- 1 lb. mushrooms, sliced
- 2 onions (3/4 lb.), peeled, chopped
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 2 tbsp. minced garlic
- 2 cups fat-free chicken broth
- 1 can (14 oz.) artichoke hearts in water, drained
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1-1/2 tsp. minced fresh or 3/4 tsp. crumbled dried rosemary
- 1 tsp. poultry seasoning
- Salt and pepper, if desired
- 1 egg

Spread bread in single layer in two (15-by-10-inch) pans. Bake in 350 degree oven until lightly toasted.

In 10- or 12-inch skillet over high heat, cook margarine, mushrooms, onion, celery and garlic, stirring often, until vegetables are lightly browned. Pour into large bowl.

Add a little broth to pan. Stir to scrape browned bits free. Add to vegetables. Add remaining broth, then add bread, artichoke hearts, cheese, poultry seasoning and rosemary. Mix well. Add salt and pepper.

In small bowl, lightly beat egg. Pour into stuffing mixture.

Mix well. Reduce oven temperature to 325 degrees.

Spoon stuffing mixture into 13-by-9-inch casserole. For moist dressing, cover with aluminum foil and bake in preheated oven about 50 minutes until hot if covered (160 degrees in center). For crusty dressing, do not cover and bake about 50 minutes until lightly browned.

Makes twelve (3/4 cup) servings; 159 calories, 8 g protein, 3.7 g fat (1.3 g saturated), 347 mg sodium and 19 mg cholesterol each.

Each of these mixes can be made in a matter of minutes. Paired with a decorative mug, it makes a special gift from the heart.

For an added touch, tie on an edible gift tag to the mug—a decorated sugar cookie with the recipient's name.

Certified family and consumer scientist Carol Schlitt is Extension educator, nutrition and wellness, with University of

Illinois Extension at the Edwardsville Extension Center.

LITE HOLIDAY SPICED COFFEE

- 2 cups lite nondairy coffee creamer
- 2 cups fat-free hot cocoa mix
- 2 cups instant coffee granules
- 25 to 30 packets sweetener
- (Sweet & Low suggested)
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 4 tsp. nutmeg

Combine creamer, cocoa mix, instant coffee, sweetener, cinnamon and nutmeg. Mix thoroughly.

Gift tag: Combine 1 tablespoon mix in 1 cup boiling water. Mix and enjoy.

MINTED COFFEE MIX

- 1/4 cup instant coffee granules
- 1/4 cup nondairy coffee creamer
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 tsp. cocoa
- 1 1/2 tsp. crushed hard peppermint candy

In blender, combine instant coffee, creamer, sugar, cocoa and peppermint until blended. Store in airtight container.

Gift tag: Combine 2 tablespoons mix with 3/4 cup boiling water. Stir well.

Color

Continued from Page 1

cranberry Fruitings, call Sunsweet toll-free at 1-800-417-2253 or look at the web site www.sunsweet.com

The National Onion Association also offers free recipes on its web site www.onions-usa.org by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: NOA, 622 7th St., Suite 510, Department C, Greeley, Colo. 80631.

BERRY-GOOD TURKEY AND ONIONS

- 1 whole turkey breast (about 7 lb.) or 2 (3-1/2 lb. each) half-breasts
- 7 tsp. balsamic vinegar
- 4 tsp. rosemary, crushed
- 4 tsp. thyme, crushed
- Salt and pepper
- 6 medium yellow onions (3 lb.), halved, sliced
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- Glazed Dried Cranberries
- Fresh parsley or other herbs for garnish

Rub turkey on all sides with 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar, then sprinkle with 3 teaspoons rosemary and 3 teaspoons thyme. Sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Place turkey in roasting pan. Roast in 350 degree oven 1-1/2 hours until meat thermometer registers 165 degrees. Halfway through roasting time, baste with 2 tablespoons vinegar.

In 12-inch skillet over medium heat, sauté onion in oil, stirring occasionally, 15 to 20 minutes until soft and light golden. Stir in 1 teaspoon rosemary, 1 teaspoon thyme, 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar and salt and pepper.

Place turkey on platter. Place turkey in center. Top with spoonful of Glazed Dried Cranberries. Pass remaining sauce. Garnish with herbs.

Makes 8 to 12 servings. Glazed Dried Cranberries: In saucepan, sprinkle 3 packages (5 ounces each) sweetened dried cranberries with 1-1/2 cups undiluted frozen fruit punch concentrate and 1-1/2 cups water to boil.

Simmer 5 minutes. Mix 2 tablespoons cornstarch with 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar and stir into sauce. Heat briefly, stirring until thickened and glossy. Makes 3 cups.

CRANBERRY-WHITE CHOCOLATE MOUSSE TART

- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen sweetened red raspberries, thawed
- 1/2 tsp. cornstarch
- 1 pkg. (5 oz.) sweetened dried cranberries
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/3 cup packed golden brown sugar
- 1/2 cup cold butter, cut up
- 1/2 cup chocolate mini chips
- 1 tsp. unflavored gelatin
- 1-1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 6 oz. white chocolate, finely chopped

Drain raspberries, reserving juice. Mix 1 tablespoon juice and cornstarch until smooth.

In small saucepan, combine raspberries and cranberries and 1/4 cup reserved juice. Bring to simmer. Add cornstarch mixture. Cook and stir 1 to 2 minutes until thickened. Cool, then chill.

In food processor, blend flour, nuts and sugar. Add butter. Pulse until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Firmly press crumbs on bottom and 1 inch up side of 9-inch springform pan. Bake in preheated oven 8 minutes or until golden.

Sprinkle chocolate chips on crust. Let stand 2 minutes. Using back of spoon, spread chocolate on bottom and side of crust. Cool.

In small saucepan, sprinkle gelatin over 1 tablespoon water. Add 1/2 cup cream. Stir over low heat until gelatin dissolves. Add white chocolate. Remove from heat and stir until melted. Pour into medium bowl. Chill 10 minutes or until cool but not set.

Whip 1 cup cream until stiff. Fold into white chocolate mixture.

Spread cranberry filling over crust. Spread white chocolate mousse over cranberries to within 1/4 inch of crust edge. Chill, covered, 1 hour or up to 1 day.

Remove side of pan. Garnish as desired.

Makes 8 to 10 servings. Note: In place of 1/4 cup reserved juice, use 3 tablespoons raspberry liqueur and 1 tablespoon juice.

Beverage mixes brew quick last-minute gifts

By Carol Schlitt
Correspondent

A sure-fire present that will please the fussiest person on the gift list is a homemade beverage mix. Exotic-sounding—and tasting—concoctions are easy, last-minute gifts for teachers, hair-

dressers, mailmen, nieces and aunts.

Long winter nights call for soothing, delicious drinks to warm kids of all ages.

CARNIVAL DRINK MIX

- 2 1/2 cups instant nonfat dry milk
- 2 cups multicolored marshmallows
- 1 cup strawberry flavored mix for milk
- 1/2 cup confectioner's sugar
- 1/3 cup buttermilk powder
- 1/3 cup powdered nondairy creamer

Combine ingredients in large bowl, combine instant milk, marshmallows, strawberry mix, sugar, buttermilk powder and creamer. Blend well.

Yields 16 servings. Divide mixture into 4 bags and place in mug for gift giving.

Gift Tag: Add 1/4 cup mix to 3/4 cup boiling water in mug. Stir to blend.

CAPPUCCINO MIX

- 1 cup powdered nondairy creamer
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup instant coffee granules
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup chocolate-flavored drink mix
- 1/4 tsp. nutmeg

Combine creamer, sugar, instant coffee, cinnamon, chocolate drink and nutmeg. Mix well.

Yields 30 servings. For an extra-special gift, pack the drink mix in a canister and tuck it into a basket with cappuccino cups, demitasse spoons and a bar of imported chocolate to shave over the top of each cup.

Gift Tag: Place one tablespoon plus one teaspoon mix in a cup. Add 1-cup boiling water. Stir well. Great served with a scoop of ice cream or whipped topping and shaved chocolate.

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 By Betty Serati
Correspondent

Sandwiches are casually-chic on many tables, both for family meals and informal entertaining. Legend holds that in 1763 John Montagu, England's fourth Earl of Sandwich, was so involved in a gaming table that he did not want to break away for dinner. The sandwich invented there as a hand-held meal allowed him to eat while continuing to play.

MICRO RAVES

This idea can be translated to the way many people entertain today - especially at holiday time.

Guests mill around, taking food from a buffet table, balancing beverage and plate while talking to one another. Eliminating a fork aids the situation, so the popularity of finger foods and sandwiches has been revived.

Sandwiches can be very simple - cold meat on dollar rolls - or elaborate. A thoughtful host offers a variety.

As temperatures dip, hot sandwiches are more filling and satisfying. Of course, a microwave oven cannot be matched for preparing hot sandwiches.

Partially warm the filling before assembling because bread does not need as much time to heat as the filling. Overcooking gives the bread a rubbery texture.

Be adventuresome when choosing breads. Dollar rolls are great; but what about trying sesame seed bread or one of the rye breads available in the wonderful bread stores popping up? The recipe below uses pita bread, which gets a gold star for containing its filling.

Switching the spread gives a sandwich pizzazz. The U.S. was stuck on yellow mustard before it discovered Dijon mustard.

When using hot or cold ingredients compatible with onion, try a sweet onion relish instead of raw onion.

Slice 4 medium onions, Vidalia or red, into a medium bowl. Combine with 2 tablespoons dry wine, ¼ cup brown sugar and ¼ cup honey. Cook on medium-high (70 percent) power 8 to 10 minutes until onion is tender and mixture has thickened. This livens up meats and vegetables on sandwiches.

Betty Serati specializes in microwave cooking.

PITA PERFECT PORK-WICHES

 1 yellow squash, sliced ¼-inch thick
1 portobella mushroom, sliced ¼ inch thick
2 tbsp. butter
4 slices (½-oz. each)

 cooked pork tenderloin or prosciutto
4 pita bread rounds, cut in half to form pockets
4 slices (1 oz. each) Gruyere cheese
2 tomatoes, chopped
Alfalfa sprouts

In medium bowl, cook squash, mushroom and onion on high power 2 to 3 minutes until vegetables are tender. Season as desired.

 Add pork. Cook on medium-high power 2 minutes longer.
Fill pita rounds with meat mixture. Add cheese. Microwave each on high power 30 to 45 seconds longer.

Top with tomato and alfalfa sprouts. Serve hot.

Makes 4 servings.

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4 ST. LOUIS Suburban Journals OLD NAVY

 By Rebecca Coley
Correspondent

Time seems to move quickly this time of year.

There is much to do and lots of socializing with friends and family. Many people supposedly gain about 5 pounds between Thanksgiving and the New Year.

A recent study offers hope it may be less.

At the North American Association for the Study of Obesity, researchers recently

discussed their findings after they followed 200 men and women from the Baltimore area. Those studied were not aware their weight in particular was being studied.

The results showed both the men and the women gained just less than a pound.

Researchers suspected the adage of gaining 5 pounds over the holidays was not accurate, because to gain that amount over the holiday period, a person would have to consume 3,500 additional calories per week.

That does not give a green

light to eating everything in sight. The stuffed feeling one gets in clothing attests to the results of overindulgence.

Eat moderately is still the best advice.

Most adults gain about a pound a year. This study may indicate most of it comes from holiday eating.

Also, most people keep that single pound. Over 20 years, the one pound per year adds up.

Obesity is associated with more illness and higher health care costs. Obesity is associated with diabetes, hypertension and heart disease.

Developing good eating habits that can be maintained throughout the year helps keep weight at a desirable level.

During the holidays, watch the amount of sugars and fat consumed. To compensate for indulging, exercise more.

Rebecca Coley is a registered pharmacist in the state of Missouri. Questions for her to answer in "Medicine Chest" can be e-mailed to her at rebecca@htsmail.com or sent to: Medicine Chest, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis Mo. 63131.

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2000 Women of Achievement
Nominations are now being accepted.
The Suburban Journals, KMOX Radio and Westfield Shoppingtowns are proud to sponsor the 2000 Women of Achievement Awards.
The purpose of the Women of Achievement Award is to recognize and honor women of diverse cultures, roles and accomplishments who have demonstrated commitment to the betterment of the St. Louis region through significant voluntary contributions.
A committee of community leaders will choose ten honorees to be recognized at the Women of Achievement luncheon this spring.
Nomination forms are now available.
NOMINATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2000
To receive a nomination form simply send a self addressed stamped envelope to:
Women of Achievement Nomination Form
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Today's Food

Turkey and stuffing spend night together

Teresa Lane, Chesterfield, wins this week's contest with Heartland Chicken or Turkey with Stuffing. Her prize is dinner certificates at the Pasta House Co.

This is her after-Thanksgiving recipe for using roast turkey. It has been a favorite long enough that she only has the recipe, no memory of where it came from. She prepares the recipe without alteration.

A recipe for a quick bread made with a fruit or vegetable should be postmarked

by Dec. 31 to be considered for winning one of the four Wednesdays in January. From pumpkin to cherry, berry to banana, any type of fruit or vegetable can be used in the recipe.

A single recipe should be sent to: Fruity Quick Bread Recipe Contest, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis 63131. It also can be e-mailed to westnews@primary.net.

Winners will be chosen from entries on the basis of taste and eye appeal, as well as originality, although the recipe need not be original.

As usual, the history of the

recipe will be considered part of the entry. If possible, name the recipe's source.

Type or print the recipe legibly on one side of the paper. Include name, address and telephone number on the entry. Name the Journal you receive.

Double-check the recipe as it is written for both amounts and directions. Include any variations that make this dish special.

Winners are notified by mail. Duplicate entries will be considered on the basis of earlier entry or best compliance with the rules. Contest winners may enter again six

months after their prize-winning publication date.

HEARTLAND CHICKEN OR TURKEY WITH STUFFING

1 pkg. (14 oz.) seasoned stuffing mix
1/2 cup (1 stick) margarine, plus extra for greasing dish
1-1/2 cups hot water
2-1/2 to 3 cups cooked chicken or turkey, cubed or shredded
1/2 cup chopped onion

3/4 cup light mayonnaise
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 can (10-3/4 oz.) cream of mushroom soup
3/4 cup water
1-1/2 cups (6 oz.) grated cheddar cheese

Lightly grease 13-by-9-inch glass baking dish with extra margarine.
Mix together stuffing mix and margarine melted in 1-1/2 cups hot water. Spread half on bottom of prepared dish.
Mix together chicken,

onion, mayonnaise, salt and pepper. Spread over stuffing mix. Top with remaining stuffing mix.

Dilute mushroom soup with 3/4 cup water. Spread over stuffing mix. Cover with aluminum foil. Refrigerate at least several hours or overnight.

Remove from refrigerator 1 hour before baking. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Bake, still covered, in preheated oven 40 minutes. Remove foil. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake, uncovered, 10 minutes.

Makes 6 servings.

CREME DE MENTHE CHEESECAKE

2 cups finely crushed, chocolate graham crackers
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted
1 cup sugar
3 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
4 eggs
1/3 cup green or white creme de menthe liqueur, or 1 tsp. peppermint extract plus 6 drops green food coloring
1 pkg. (4.67 oz.) creme de menthe chocolate mint candy thins, chopped (reserve 6 for garnish)
1 tsp. flour
Whipped cream, if desired

Preheat oven to 375

degrees. Lightly grease 9-inch springform pan.

In large bowl, stir together crumbs and butter until crumbly. Press on bottom and 1 inch up side of prepared pan.

In large bowl, combine sugar and cream cheese. Using electric mixer, beat at medium speed 1 to 2 minutes until creamy, scraping bowl often. Continue beating, adding eggs one at a time, until well mixed. Do not overbeat. Stir in liqueur.

In small bowl, stir together 1/2 cup chopped mints and 1 teaspoon flour. Gently stir into cream cheese mixture. Pour filling onto crust. Sprinkle with remaining chopped mints.

Bake in preheated oven 45 to 55 minutes until firm to touch. Cheesecake surface may be cracked slightly. Loosen side of cheesecake by running knife around inside of pan. Cool 1 hour. Refrigerate, covered, at least 3 hours.

To garnish, pipe whipped cream over top of cheesecake and top with reserved whole mints. Refrigerate.

Tips: Chocolate mint candies are individually wrapped.

To prevent cracked texture, place pan of warm water on rack below cheesecake in oven.

SAUSAGE TIDBITS

For an elegant version of "pigs in a blanket," place links of fully-cooked sausage, such as Italian sausage, kielbasa or chorizo - at edge of sheet of puff pastry. Roll pastry around sausage. Cut in rounds and bake until puffed and golden.

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Where was Elmo? Section: _____ Page: _____

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Limit 1 with additional \$10 purchase
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24 pk., 12 oz. cans Assorted Varieties
Pepsi

398¢

6 pack 24 oz. NRB
Pepsi, 2/\$5
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37 oz. Assorted Varieties
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3/88¢

4 lb.
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5 lb. All Purpose
Best Choice
Flour

79¢

8 oz. Regular & Light
Best Choice
Cream Cheese

69¢

6 oz. Assorted Varieties
Stove Top
Stuffing

89¢

8 oz.
Cool Whip
Topping

99¢

15 oz. Whole or Jellied
Best Choice
Cranberry Sauce

2/\$1

MEAT & PRODUCE			GROCERY • DAIRY • FROZEN						
<p>16 oz. pkg. Regular or Beef Seitz Smokey Links Cocktail Smokies</p> <p>2/\$4</p>	<p>California Fresh Broccoli</p> <p>88¢ bunch</p>	<p>32 oz. Miracle Whip</p> <p>179¢</p>	<p>1/2 gallon Fat Free, Yogurt, Sherbet, Homemade or Edy's Grand Ice Cream</p> <p>2/595¢</p>	<p>12 Pack 12 oz. Cans Assorted Varieties Coca-Cola</p> <p>229¢</p>	<p>12 oz. pkg. Assorted Varieties Jimmy Dean Sausage</p> <p>188¢</p>	<p>U.S. #1 or Jumbo Sweet Potatoes</p> <p>58¢ lb.</p>	<p>14 to 14.25 oz. Frosted or Honeynut General Mills Cereals</p> <p>2/495¢</p>	<p>16 oz. Frozen Pkts. Corn, Green Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Cut Broccoli or Cauliflower Birds Eye Vegetables</p> <p>69¢</p>	<p>2 liter Regular or Diet Wild Cherry Pepsi, Orange Slice, Mug Root Beer, Lipton Brisk, Schweppes Ginger Ale</p> <p>79¢</p>
<p>4-7 lb. avg. Grade A Frozen White Honeyuckle White Turkey Breast</p> <p>148¢ lb.</p>	<p>12 oz. pkg. Farmland Bacon</p> <p>2/\$3</p>	<p>U.S. #1 Russet Potatoes</p> <p>188¢ 10 lb. bag</p>	<p>1 roll Coronet Print Towels</p> <p>2/99¢</p>	<p>48 oz. Regular & Light Kraft Parkay Spread</p> <p>139¢</p>	<p>10 lb. pkg. Premium Quality Pork Farmland Chitterlings</p> <p>698¢</p>	<p>7 oz. box Assorted Varieties Swift Premium Brown n Serve Sausage Links</p> <p>98¢</p>	<p>California Pascal Celery</p> <p>58¢ stalk</p>	<p>14.5 oz. Whole Kernel & Cream Style Corn, Cut & French Style Green Beans Del Monte Vegetables</p> <p>3/\$1</p>	<p>2 pack Pet-Ritz Pie Crusts</p> <p>88¢</p>
<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>	<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>	<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>	<p>2 pk. Deep Dish Pie Crusts</p> <p>139¢</p>	<p>12-12 oz. cans Natural Light Beer</p> <p>499¢</p>	<p>13.25 oz. Assorted Varieties Regular or Ridgess Guy's Potato Chips</p> <p>2/\$3</p>	<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>	<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>	<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>	<p>5 lb. bag Pre-Cleaned Queenella Chitterlings</p> <p>598¢</p>

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Puree garlic, walnuts and parmesan cheese in a food processor. Add basil, salt, black pepper, sugar and balsamic vinegar. Puree again and, while the machine is still running, add chicken broth to form a thick, smooth paste. Use as a topping for grilled chicken breasts or fish, or spread it on bread in place of butter.

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Today's Food

Guests eat glorious cake when taking 'just desserts'

Sweeten a celebration by throwing a "just desserts" party which is, quite literally, a piece of cake.

It can be as simple as substituting mini fruit tarts and decorated cookies for typical hors d'oeuvres, or feature a rich layer cake as the single goal with fresh fruits and cheese, or offer it on a pedestal plate among other sweets.

An updated classic favorite, Cream Cheese Pound Cake, is drizzled with a smooth glaze and decorated with glaze (glaze-SAY) fruits and lemon twists.

More free holiday recipes are available by sending a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: "Holiday Desserts," ADA Recipe Leaflets, c/o Inland Marketing Services, St. Louis District Dairy Council, 1254 Hanley Industrial Court, St. Louis, Mo. 63144-1912. It also is available through the American Dairy Association's

web site at
www.lovecheese.com.

CREAM CHEESE POUND CAKE

- 1-1/2 pkg. (8 oz. size) cream cheese, softened
 - 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
 - 3 cups granulated sugar
 - 6 eggs, separated
 - 3 cups cake flour
 - 1/4 tsp. salt
 - 1 tsp. vanilla
 - 1 cup coarsely chopped, glazed mixed fruit (candied cherries and pineapple)
 - 2/3 cup chopped toasted pecans
- Cream Cheese Glaze**
More glaze fruit and pecan halves, if desired for

garnish

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour 12-cup fluted cake pan. In large bowl, beat cream cheese and butter until smooth. Gradually beat in 2-1/2 cups sugar. Add egg yolks, one at a time, beating until light and fluffy after each addition. Mix in cake flour, salt and vanilla.

Using clean beaters in large non-plastic bowl, beat egg whites to soft peaks. Gradually add remaining 1/2-cup sugar and beat to stiff peaks.

Stir one-fourth egg whites into batter. Fold batter into remaining egg whites. Fold in chopped glaze fruit and pecans.

Four batter into prepared pan. Bake in preheated oven about 1-1/2 hours until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean.

Cool on wire rack 20 minutes. Invert cake onto wire



Pound cake takes richness and texture from luxurious cream cheese.

rack and cool completely. To assemble, drizzle cake with Cream Cheese Glaze and garnish with halved fruit and pecans. Refrigerate

cake. Let stand at room temperature 1 to 1-1/2 hours before serving. Cream Cheese Glaze: Beat 1/4 package (2 tablespoons)

cream cheese, 1 cup confectioner's sugar and 1 to 2 teaspoons lemon juice to make glaze consistency.

Brunch eases hassle of impromptu invitation

Try late morning brunch for turning the frazzled feel into a festive one.

Shredded Beef and Chorizo Sausage Hash stars on the menu. Easy beef combined with fresh sausage - chorizo

or another spicy favorite - gives an unexpected change of pace when it is mixed with frozen potatoes O'Brien, and fresh cilantro, bell pepper and onion.

For the beef, leftover pot

roast can be used or conveniently choose a heat-and-serve variety from the supermarket. It gives a head start on preparation without prolonging cooking time.

If preparing one of your

own, roast it until it is done, not overdone. Shred the meat while it is warm, using two forks.

It takes about 30 minutes to prepare the dish. Round out the hassle-free menu with



Beef hash is the food highlight, congeniality is the friendly goal at brunch.

easy accompaniments, like seasonal fruits or fruit salad, a favorite vegetable and bakery breads. Offer juices, coffee and mulled cider to drink.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Using two forks, shred enough beef to measure 2 cups. Reserve any remaining roast and gravy for other use.

In large ovenproof non-stick skillet over medium heat, brown sausage 8 to 10 minutes and break into 1/2-inch crumbles. Drain on paper towels. Discard drippings; wipe out skillet with paper towels. Heat oil over medium heat. Cook and stir bell pepper and onion until tender. Stir in potatoes. Add salt. Add beef, sausage, 1/3 cup gravy and cilantro to vegetables. Mix well.

Firmly press down top of mixture. Bake in preheated oven 20 minutes or until lightly browned and crisp.

Makes 6 servings; 274 calories, 19 g protein, 13 g carbohydrate, 16 g fat, 480 mg sodium and 60 mg cholesterol each.

SHREDDED BEEF AND CHORIZO SAUSAGE HASH

- 1 pkg. (about 2 lb.) cooked boneless beef pot roast with 1/3 cup gravy
- 8 oz. chorizo sausage, casing removed
- 1 tbsp. oil
- 3/4 cup finely chopped green bell pepper
- 3/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 3 cups frozen potatoes O'Brien, thawed
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 3 tbsp. chopped fresh cilantro

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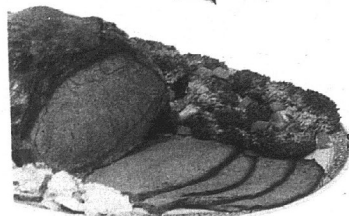
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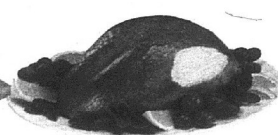
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Auto bulges with 'attitude'

Subtle is not a word I would use to describe the redesign of Pontiac's popular Bonneville, especially the supercharged SSEi. The car's styling is the latest in General Motors and it is underscored by the 2000 Bonneville. From the striated body cladding, to the sleek, aerodynamic nose with large fog lights to the chrome 17-inch wheels, it drips with performance. The car's stance looks like look like large, rectangular funnels. Pontiac calls it "attitude." A hard worker, the car is also called a sedan for a mid-life crisis.

While this front-wheel-drive sedan atop the same chassis/platform as the Buick Park Avenue and the upcoming 2002 Oldsmobile Alero, it has a personality distinctly its own. Think of it as a four-door sports car and you get the idea. From a 0-60 time of 6.2 seconds, the supercharged SSEi has more than ample acceleration. Lesser models have a 0-60 time of 10.1, which is hardly shabby. In terms of handling, agility takes top billing over plushness, although the ride compensates for the firmness.

There are three models: SE, LE and SSEI. The SE begins at \$24,295, the SLE at \$27,995 and the SSEI at \$31,995. The SE is the one that you would normally expect to find when you populary equipped, each model is less than a 1996. The biggest savings are on the SLE. The SSEI is the most expensive, but it has the most features. Aside from the supercharged engine, the top-line SSEI is packed with features: 16-speaker Bose® vehicle stability system, Bose stereo, heated outside mirrors, leather-trimmed interior, 16 alloy wheels and four-wheel, anti-lock disc brakes. The stability system that is available on the other models is similar to the one used by Cadillac, and it applies one brake or two when it senses a car is skidding excessively on slippery pavement or in evasive maneuvers. The base SE is longer than last year, and torsion bar stiffness is 62 percent greater. The SE has 16 alloy wheels, only a crash protection. The added stiffness of the SE is 62 percent greater. The SE is more responsive and a tighter overall feel to the vehicle. The SE is powered by GM's venerable 3800 V-6 engine.

Dipping into the supercharger's torque produces wheel-spinning acceleration as the steering wheel jerks and the car lurches forward. The wheels searching for traction. The supercharged engine's extra noise under heavy throttle is a welcome byproduct for the extra power and responsiveness that will vault you around slower traffic on two-lane roads.

While GM has done a great job in keeping the 3800 V-6 up to date, the 1995 Oldsmobile Aurora's sophistication of the twin-cam V-8 in Oldsmobile's Aurora, for example, is a step forward. The 1995 Oldsmobile Aurora could use an engine like that.

Inside, the instrument panel wraps around the driver like a cockpit, and it is punctuated with eight slotted air vents and white-on-black push-button controls. The buttons for the radio are standard on both the SLE and SSE, but the SSE's optional leather-trimmed seats provide lateral support for aggressive driving. Even though the SSE's seats adjust for lumbar support, the leather-trimmed seats feel uncomfortable after prolonged time behind the wheel.

—*Tommy Lieberman* (SSE) *and* *the seat belts*

built into the seats, which is great because the fit remains the same—no matter how the seat is adjusted. The seats are also padded with a mesh patch occasionally poked me in the back as I slid into the seat, where the mesh was along the belt line and would not do so.

In the event of a rear-end collision, the SSI's headrests and shoulder cradle occupants like a ball in a mitt, and the head rests rotate forward to help reduce the severity of whiplash.

Handy items include a tire-pressure monitor that signals low pressure and a low-oil-pressure warning that shuts off a lamp if it is left on and on the SSI's, two keyless entry systems. The SSI's are programmed to set heating/cooling levels, radio stations, door-lock preferences and perimeter lighting for each owner. The SSI's also have a remote lock that don't want to blend into the background. They like their luxury with a touch of technology.

The base price of our SSI was \$32,450. Options included a sun roof, a CD changer and heated front seats. The sticker price was \$34,625. Dealer prep and taxes are for three years or 36,000 miles.

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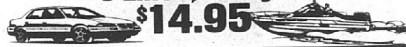
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Publication	Publication Day	Deadline
St. Louis City/County	Wednesday	Monday, 6 p.m.
North Side	Thursday	Tuesday, Noon
Jefferson Co.	Wednesday	Monday, 6 p.m.
Tri-County	Sunday	Friday, 6 p.m.
St. Charles Co.	Wednesday	Monday, 6 p.m.
Warrenton News	Friday	Wednesday, 5 p.m.
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